

THE North-China Herald

and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette

THE WEEKLY EDITION OF THE NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS

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VOL. XCIV No. 2216

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August 30, 1907.

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THE WEEK'S MAILS.

The English mail of December 24
arrived here on Monday, the 24th
instant, per P. & O. S. Arcadia.

The Canadian mail of December 28
arrived here on Saturday, the 22nd
instant, per R. M. S. Monteagle.

The mail from London (via Siberia
and Dalny) of January 12 arrived here
on Friday, the 28th instant, per
S. M. R. S. Kobe Maru.

BIRTHS.

CAREN—On January 13, 1910,
at the London Mission, Canton,
to the Rev. T. H. and Mrs.
Caren, a son.

DAVIES—On January 22, 1910, at
13 Love Lane, Bubbling Well
Road, Shanghai, the wife of C.
Gilbert Davies, of a daughter.

KLEY—On January 22, 1910, at
198 Bubbling Well Road, Shang-
hai, the wife of Capt. Kley, of a
son.

STANTON—On January 19, 1910,
at Canton, China, the wife of
Edwin A. Stanton, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

CARLSON—STEINBERG.—On
Saturday, January 22, 1910, at
the Scandinavian Seamen's Mis-
sion, by Pastor A. E. Bydberg,
Fredrick Carlson to Anna Stein-
berg, both of Shanghai.

LEWIS—WAHLSTRÖM.—On
January 17, 1910, at H.B.M.'s
Consulate, before Sir Pelham War-
ren, K.C.M.G., and afterwards at the
Church of the Sacred Heart of
Jesus, by the Rev. Father Moison,
S.J., David Lewis, F.C.S., M.P.S.,
son of the late Thomas Lewis, of
Llandilo, South Wales, to Jessie
Wahlström, daughter of the late
Major J. C. Watson, of Ningpo.

MCGARITY—BROOMFIELD.—
On January 21, 1910, at St.
Joseph's Church, Shanghai, Frank
McGarity, of Redcar, England,
to Elizabeth Georgina, third
daughter of Francis Broomfield,
of West Dulwich.

DEATHS.

CAREN—On January 13, 1910,
at the London Mission, Canton,
Edith Maye, beloved wife of the
Rev. T. H. Caren.

SIEBS—On January 26, 1910, in
Hamburg, Nicolaus August Siebs,
formerly of Hongkong and Shang-
hai. Aged 69 years.

LADIES' DIRECTORY

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SHANGHAI, 1910.

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The charge for announcements of Births,
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It is imperative that all advertisements
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CHINA DAILY NEWS" be sent in before
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The North-China Herald

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SHANGHAI, JAN. 28, 1910.

THE COMET AND CHINESE UNREST.

THE remarkable letter from the Rev. D. MacGillivray which we published on Wednesday afforded a striking illustration of the effect that Halley's Comet is likely to produce on the Chinese masses. "During a recent visit to the interior," Mr. MacGillivray tells us, "a mere passing reference to the coming of the Comet brought even officials to their feet with eager questions." Two and a half years ago, it may be remembered, the appearance of a comet aroused considerable uneasiness among the people of Chékiang, who did not fail to connect the portent with the drought then prevailing in various parts of the province. Halley's 'comet is a far more impressive spectacle than the visitor of August, 1907; and the fact that signs of unrest have of late been growing visibly throughout the Empire lends additional urgency to the efforts that the Christian Literature Society is making to forestall the influence of the approaching phenomenon. As evidence of that unrest we may quote from a lengthy report received yesterday from Mr. E. S. Little, now traveling in the western provinces; for the account that he gives of the feelings at work among Chinese of all classes is grave indeed. "As I travel round and discuss the question with one and another," he writes, "I find that without exception every foreigner who has any experience and who has studied the situation agrees that it is fraught with extreme danger." Of the various significant events which are quoted in support of this view some have been dealt with already in these columns; but they may conveniently be put together again here in succinct form.

The "carved melon" circular, to adopt the metaphor by which Chinese political writers traditionally express the division of territory, has been noted within the last month by our correspondents from Shantung down to Kiangsi; it has now spread still farther afield, in newspapers, in posters on city walls; and everywhere it has stirred up men's minds. The origins of this scare are quite inexplicable; but its effects in exciting the students and

in driving them to enrol themselves in volunteer corps are unmistakable. So far from checking this dangerous movement, the Government only stands aloof, where it does not actually encourage the students by issuing arms. Next in order to this phase of the agitation, may be placed the railway loans question. The contest between the Kiangsu and Chékiang Railway Bureaux and the Government over the construction of the Hangchow-Ningpo line is too familiar to need repetition. Its importance, however, in encouraging other provinces to adopt the same tactics, in the certainty that no serious effort will be made to withstand them, is becoming daily more visible; and while the provinces insist on the right to build their railways with their own funds, speculation of money subscribed is rife. As regards the Hankow-Szechuan line the Szechuan people are reported to have subscribed, some three or four years ago, \$1,000,000 for their end of the line, but the Provincial Government has "borrowed" the money for other purposes. As a side-light on the determined opposition of the Chinese towards any vestige of foreign enterprises, Mr. Little quotes the law that has gone forth in Hunan "that no title deed may be issued throughout the provinces (? Liang-Hu) unless it contains the stipulation that the land shall never be sold or leased to foreigners." The newspapers, we are told, which are multiplying in every city and enjoy large circulations are "one and all engaged in spreading the doctrine of hatred of the foreigner." The officials, as there is abundant proof to show, are opposed to foreigners; and "Chinese are beginning to learn that those who make themselves friendly to foreigners are objects of suspicion and liable to get themselves into trouble."

That feature of the situation, however, to which attention should most be directed is the series of national subscriptions that are being raised for the paying-off of all foreign loans and indemnities, and for the building of a navy and of railways. Of these the two former are under the direct patronage of the Government; and the importance of the movement lies, not so much in its frankly anti-foreign basis, as in the fact that the Chinese themselves would appear to be totally blind to the true bearing of the enterprise. If it could seriously be believed that the so many hundred million taels, when subscribed, would honestly be devoted to the liquidation of China's foreign debts, the scheme, as we

have already remarked, would be sufficiently open to condemnation, because no sum so large could be withdrawn from the country without bad effect on every-day business. But is it possible to credit even so much as this? The fate of popular subscriptions is well illustrated by the "borrowing" of the \$1,000,000 collected for the Szechuan railway; and in regard to the national debt fund an announcement of sinister suggestion has already been made that the Ministry of Finance will wait for some tangible results to be shown before publishing returns of the amount received. We know from many sources that Peking is at its wits' end for money; the late Grand Councillor Chang Chih-tung and ex-Viceroy Tuan Fang have left heavy deficits behind them; while the unsecured issue of banknotes proceeds as if no prohibition had ever been launched against it. That the people, already alive to these facts, should be so blinded by enthusiasm as to overlook the almost certain destination of national debt and naval funds, is merely another instance of the contradictions of Chinese characteristics. But it is a sign of the times on which more emphasis may be laid than on all the anti-foreign propaganda of the student class. Without under-rating the observations of those devoted workers who, scattered over the face of China, watch the developments of popular feeling from day to day, we may draw consolation from the thought that the student class is still a somewhat shapeless organization, greatly distrusted by old-fashioned Chinese. That the outlook at the present time is more serious than it has been for many years cannot be denied. But if the immediate future is indeed to bring forth open strife and violence, we believe that the primary cause will have to be sought in the movement for debt redemption funds, and in the disillusionment that will follow in the train of their collection.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE.

"North-China Daily News" Service.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

LATEST RESULTS.

London via Bombay, Jan. 20.

The latest results of the elections are as follows:—

Unionists	158 seats.
Liberals	131 „
Labourites	26 „
Nationalists ...	50 „

365 seats.

The return of Mr. D. M. Mason, Independent Liberal, for the Tradeston Division of Glasgow, counts as a Liberal gain.

The Party gains, therefore, to date are:—

Unionists	70 gains.
Liberals	10 „
Labour	1 „
Net Unionist gains	59.

THE COUNTY ELECTIONS.

In the English Counties the first results to-day have gone in favour of the Unionists who have already secured 13 gains.—*Reuter.*

MINISTERS RE-ELECTED.

London via Bombay, Jan. 21.

Further Ministerial re-elections are: the Right Hon. Sir Edward Grey, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in the last Parliament, for Berwick-on-Tweed, and the Right Hon. H. L. Samuel, who was Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, for Cleveland.

MR. KEIR HARDIE RETURNED.

Mr. J. Keir Hardie, a member of the Labour Party, has been re-elected for Merthyr Tydvil, Wales.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS.

Yesterday's Unionist gains caused a sensation in political circles and have upset Liberal calculations.—*Reuter.*

LATEST RESULTS.

London via Bombay, Jan. 21.

The results of the elections up till this (Friday) morning are as follows:—

Unionists	163
Liberals	137
Labour	29
Nationalists	53

The total number of Unionist gains is 72, of Liberal gains 10 and of Labour gains one. No Liberal gains were recorded yesterday.

THE VOTER EX MACHINA.

The Liberals admit that the election results of yesterday were totally unexpected; but declare that intimidation was exercised to the utmost by the Conservatives, who, moreover, had an enormous advantage in the use of motor vehicles.

A TWICE-TOLD TALE.

Speaking at Ladybank, Scotland, Mr. Asquith declared that, whatever the composition of the new Parliament, it could already be predicted that it will not have any mandate from the great industrial areas to interfere with Free Trade.—*Reuter.*

UNIONIST PRESS

EXULTANT.

London, Jan. 21.

The Conservative press, generally, is jubilant at the prospects of Tariff Reform; but "The Morning Post" admits that the nation, apparently has not yet made up its mind.—*Exclusive Service.*

The Unionist gains are hailed with exultation by the Conservative press.—*Reuter.*

THE LATEST RESULTS.

London, Jan. 22.

The latest results to hand are as follows:—

Unionists ...	217 seats (100 gains)
Liberals	180 „ (4 „)
Labourites ...	32 „ (1 „)
Nationalists ...	66 „ (— „)

Special Service.

MINISTERIAL

RE-ELECTIONS.

London via Bombay, Jan. 23.

The Right Hon. L. V. Harcourt, First Commissioner of Works in the last Parliament, has been re-elected for Rossendale and the Right Hon. T. W. Russell, who was Vice-President of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, has also been re-elected.

North Louth has again returned Mr. T. M. Healy.

Mr. Victor Grayson, Socialist, has been defeated at Colne Valley.

Mr. T. W. Russell was member for South Tyrone, and was to have stood for that constituency again. But both "Reuter" and our special service give Son in Tyrone as a Unionist gain. A gain in North Tyrone was more likely; for in the by-election of 1907 Mr. Redmond Barry, K.C., was elected by the narrow margin of seven votes.—*Ed.*

THE CONDUCT OF THE ELECTIONS.

The elections throughout have been conducted in an orderly and good-tempered manner. The counties continue to show an extraordinary turnover of votes.

The Liberals have gained a seat at Pudsey, West Riding of Yorkshire.—*Reuter.*

LATEST RESULTS.

London, Jan. 24.

The results of the elections to date are as follow:—

Unionists ...	218 (100 gains)
Liberals	185 (15 „)
Labourites ...	32 (1 „)
Nationalists ...	66 —

The Liberals gained a seat at St. Andrew's Burghs and retained their hold on Radcliffe-cum-Farnworth, Shipley, Sowerby and Spenn Valley.

The Unionists returned the former member for Handsworth (Staffs).—*Special Service.*

LOOKING FORWARD.

London via Bombay, Jan. 24.

Mr. C. F. G. Masterman, Under Secretary for the Home Office in the last Parliament, speaking at Redhill, Surrey, said that there might be another appeal to the country before many months.—*Reuter.*

HOME RULE.

London via Bombay, Jan. 24.

Speaking at Dublin, Mr. John Redmond declared that Home Rule was the sole issue before the electors.

He admitted that the House of Lords' power of veto must first be abolished; but when that was accomplished, he added, he would like to see the Liberal Party daring to refuse Home Rule.—*Reuter.*

VERDICT AND FORECASTS.

London via Bombay, Jan. 24.

Each side is doing its utmost to make the most of the results. The Liberals declare that the Tories have received a set-back and that the "Fod-Taxers" are in a hopeless plight.

The Conservatives say that Saturday was the worst day the Government has yet experienced.

"The Daily Chronicle" forecasts a majority for the Government, including Nationalists, of from 104 to 114.

The Unionist papers are indulging in much speculation regarding the terms which Mr. Redmond will impose.—*Reuter.*

LATEST RESULTS.

London, Jan. 25.

The latest results of the General Election are as follows:—

Unionist ...	221 Seats (103 gains)
Liberals ...	202 „ 15 „
Labourites	34 „ 1 „
Nationalists	69 „ —

Mr. Lloyd George has been re-elected for Carnarvon District by a majority of 1078 votes. (His majority in 1906 was 1224).—*Special Service.*

Fuller details of the last day's results are given in our special supplement.—*Ed.*

A THRICE-TOLD TALE.

London, Jan. 25.

Speaking at Newburgh, Fifeshire, Mr. Asquith confined his remarks to reiterating that the verdict of the industrial centres made Tariff Reform impossible.—*Exclusive Service.*

SPEECH BY MR. BALFOUR. *London, Jan. 25.*

Mr. Balfour, speaking at Haddington, Scotland, said that Tariff Reform was absolutely inevitable as the Free Trade Budget had broken down.

He was amazed, he continued, at the levity with which Ministers introduced such momentous questions as Home Rule and the destruction of the House of Lords. They were proposing to destroy the United Kingdom by constitutional revolution. These questions, he declared, could not be settled without a further appeal to the country.—*Exclusive Service.*

"THE TIMES" COUNSEL.

London via Bombay, Jan. 25.

"The Times" anticipates a parliamentary deadlock owing to the Nationalists holding the balance of power, but says that there is more than one way of overcoming the obstacle. For instance there might be a compromise between the two main parties or a provisional Government formed by the moderates on both sides with a neutral leader.—*Reuter.*

INTERPRETING THE SIGNS.

London, Jan. 25.

Mr. Winston Churchill, speaking at Poole, Dorset, and Mr. Lloyd George, speaking at Alfreton, Derby, declared that the result of the election was a clear mandate to smash the Lords' power of veto.—*Exclusive Service.*

LATEST RESULTS.

London, Jan. 26.

The latest results of the General Election are as follow :—

Unionists	...237 Seats (112 gains)
Liberals	214 " (16 ")
Labourites	... 37 " (1 gain)
Nationalists	71 " ———

There have been two Liberal gains ; at Govan, and in North West Lanarkshire.—*Special Service.*

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

The King will open Parliament on February 15.—*Special Service.*

MR. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN RE-ELECTED.

London via Bombay Jan. 26.

Mr. Austen Chamberlain has been re-elected for East Worcester with a majority of 5689.—*Reuter.*

* * At the last election Mr. Austen Chamberlain's majority was 4366—*Ed.*

LIBERAL SUGGESTION OF COMPROMISE.

London, Jan. 26.

The key-note of the political situation to-day is a most moderate

leading article in "The Westminster Gazette" (Liberal), emphasizing the importance of co-operation. The paper affirms that it is reasonable that the House of Commons should secure full power over the finance of the country, but says that abuse of that power by "tacking" to money bills questions demanding separate treatment must be excluded.

The Conservative evening papers welcome these overtures as being in the interests of the Empire and believe that the best intelligence of the Liberals and Unionists is probably within negotiable distance of compromise.—*Exclusive Service.*

LATEST RESULTS.

London, Jan. 27.

The latest results of the election are as follow :—

Unionists	 255 (118 gains)
Liberals	 231 (18 ")
Labourites	 38 (1 ")
Nationalists	 73 ———

—*Special Service.*

THE POLITICAL POSITION.

London, Jan. 27.

The Liberal Press is now unanimous in holding that there is only one question ahead, namely that of the House of Lords.

The Conservative papers express themselves as confident that Mr. Asquith will disregard the extremists and decide upon a policy of moderation and compromise, in view of the difficulties involved in bargaining with the Nationalists and Labourites. They insist upon the necessity of the Conservatives not slackening in their organization in view of the probability of another election.—*Exclusive Service.*

THE CHINCHOW-AIGUN RAILWAY.

ANGLO-AMERICAN CONCESSION GRANTED.

Peking, Jan. 21.

The Central Government will issue a Rescript approving of the construction of the Chinchow-Tsitsihar-Aigun Railway in accordance with an agreement between Lord French, representative of Messrs. Pauling & Co., Mr. W.D. Straight and Viceroy Hsi Liang of Manchuria, which was signed on October 2.

All the capital required, estimated to amount to Tls. 50,000,000, will be provided by American capitalists and the British firm of Messrs. Pauling & Co will construct the line.

No Edict has been issued yet, but it is expected that the agreement will be signed on Monday.

Japan is not opposed to the concession on principle, but the question of participation may arise.—*Our Own Correspondent.*

* * Readers of our Chinese News will not be altogether unprepared for this important news. This railway has been under consideration for some months. Lord French is the representative of the syndicate that obtained the concession for the Heilmintun-Fakumen line, the construction of which was vetoed by Japan. Mr. Straight was formerly United States Consul at Mukden and represents a group of American financiers in the Far East.—*Ed.*

RUSSIA'S DIPLOMATIC RESERVE.

Peking, Jan. 24.

Russia does not favour the proposed Chinchow-Aigun Line, which America submitted simultaneously with the neutralization scheme in the form of an alternative proposal. Her reply has been to the effect that the question would take time to consider, as there were many points of view from which it might be regarded.—*Our Own Correspondent.*

FORCING AN ISSUE ?

London via Bombay, Jan. 25.

"The Times" expresses regret that China should have chosen the present moment to authorize the Chinchow-Aigun Railway inasmuch as it is a shortsighted attempt to force matters to an issue by aggravating the divergencies between the Powers.—*Reuter.*

TURKEY'S PARLIAMENT HOUSE.

DESTROYED BY FIRE.

London, Jan. 21.

Telegrams from Constantinople state that the Chiragan Palace, where the Parliament met, has been practically burned to the ground.

This is a national calamity as the archives of the Chamber have been destroyed.—*Exclusive Service.*

A NEW COMET.

SEMPER ALIQUID NOVI EX AFRICA.

London, Jan. 22.

A new comet, not Halley's, was discovered by observers at Johannesburg on January 17 and has since been seen by the observatories at Cambridge and Gibraltar.—*Exclusive Service.*

A CHANGE OF FLAG.*London, Jan. 22.*

The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company has purchased Lund's Blue Anchor Line of steamers. — *Exclusive Service.*

* * * The Blue Anchor Line had a fleet of six steamers of a total tonnage of 38,995. The best boats are the Commonwealth, 6,611 tons and the Geelong, 7,954 tons. These steamers plied between London and Australia via the Cape of Good Hope, and carried H.M. mails between South Africa and Australia. — *Ed.*

TERRIBLE RAILWAY DISASTER.*London via Bombay, Jan. 23.*

A Canadian Pacific Railway train has been precipitated over the river embankment at Webbwood, Ontario.

Estimates of the number killed vary from ten to forty; many were injured. — *Reuter.*

* * * Webbwood is a small township on the Spanish River in the Algoma district of the province of Ontario, which lies north of Lake Huron. — *Ed.*

THE MANCHURIAN RAILWAYS.**REPLIES FROM RUSSIA AND JAPAN.***London via Bombay, Jan. 22.*

Russia has replied to the United States, rejecting the proposal for the neutralization of the Manchurian Railways, which, she affirms, would injure both her State and private interests.

JAPAN'S REASONS FOR REJECTION.

Japan has also replied declining to accept the proposed scheme, because its adoption would not confer any advantage upon Japan and would not change the commercial situation in Manchuria. Japan, it is added, is adhering strictly to the policy of the "open door." — *Reuter.*

JAPAN'S OFFICIAL STATEMENT.*Tokio, Jan. 23.*

Japan has informed Great Britain, France, Russia and Germany, in addition to America, that she will not consent to Mr. Knox's neutralization proposal. — *Our Own Correspondent.*

THE NEW RAILWAY LOAN.*Peking, Jan. 23.*

In regard to the Chinchou-Aigun Railway loan the United States have decided to invite international

participation as a proof of the Government's disinterested motives. — *Our Own Correspondent.*

INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL.*Hongkong, Jan. 24.*

Scotland has defeated France at Rugby football by twenty-seven points to nil. — *Special Service.*

A MEAT BOYCOTT.**FIGHTING A TRUST.***London, Jan. 24.*

A meat boycott has been started in America as a protest against the exorbitant prices charged by the Meat Trust.

The movement has extended to Boston and other cities and fully a million people in America have pledged themselves not to eat meat for a month or two. — *Exclusive Service.*

SEDITIONOUS INDIAN SOLDIERS.*London, Jan. 24.*

The 10th Jats Regiment, ten men of which were recently arrested for sedition, has been ordered to leave Calcutta and to proceed to Hyderabad. — *Exclusive Service.*

RUSSIA.**AN ASSASSIN SENTENCED.***London, Jan. 24.*

Vosskressensky, who assassinated Colonel Karpoff, Chief of the Russian Secret Police, on December 23, has been tried by court-martial and sentenced to death. — *Exclusive Service.*

EARTHQUAKES IN EUROPE.*London via Bombay, Jan. 24.*

Earthquakes have been recorded in several European centres. Shocks were felt at Cardiff, in Paris and in Iceland. It is believed that the centre of the disturbance was in the Caucasus or Armenia. — *Reuter.*

GENERAL BADEN-POWELL.*London via Bombay, Jan. 24.*

Lieutenant-General Sir R. S. S. Baden-Powell is retiring from the Army to devote himself to the Boy Scouts. — *Reuter.*

THE PRINCE REGENT DECORATED.*Peking, Jan. 25.*

Count von Rex, German Minister to Peking, presented the Prince Regent to-day with the insignia of the Order of the Black Eagle. — *Our Own Correspondent.*

RIOTS IN CHEKIANG.*Kashing, Jan. 25.*

Riots have broken out at Tung-hianghsien in connexion with the rice tax. The yamen has been dismantled and some soldiers have been seriously wounded.

The Mission compound is quiet. — *Our Own Correspondent.*

Jan. 27.

Another attack was made by the rioters on Tung-hianghsien yesterday. The soldiers opened fire on the mob and a number were killed. The east gate of the town was burned.

Last night reinforcements arrived from Hangchow and the place is quiet to-day. The mission is unharmed. — *Our Own Correspondent.*

* * * Tung-hianghsien lies between Kashing and Haining. — *Ed.*

ASSASSINATION IN INDIA.**A POLICE OFFICER SHOT.***London, Jan. 25.*

Telegrams from Calcutta state that an Indian Police Officer named Alum, who was prominent in unearthing a conspiracy at Midnapur, was shot dead by a Bengali youth in the High Court.

The murderer fled into the street and threw a bomb at his pursuers. The bomb failed to explode and the youth was arrested. — *Exclusive Service.*

FLOODS IN FRANCE.**ABNORMAL RISE OF THE SEINE.***London via Bombay, Jan. 25.*

Dispatches from Paris report that the river Seine is rising in a phenomenal manner.

Already the river has risen twenty feet. Three bridges have been closed as dangerous to traffic. The riverside streets are inundated; the sewers are bursting and an epidemic is feared.

Thousands have been rendered homeless and the Chamber of Deputies has voted £8,000 for preliminary relief. — *Reuter.*

A NATIONAL DISASTER.*London via Bombay, Jan. 27.*

The floods in France are amounting, almost, to a national calamity and are dislocating traffic communications in Paris and flooding out thousands of homes. Similar conditions prevail in the provinces. It is estimated, officially, that damage to the extent of £40,000,000 has been done.

On the advice of the (Government) Architect the Foreign Office

on the Quai d'Orsay has been evacuated.

The Louvre and the Tuileries with their priceless national treasures are threatened, but military engineers are working desperately to erect a barricade.

It is hoped that the flood has reached its maximum to-night.—*Reuter.*

GUN-LAYERS' TESTS.

SUCCESS OF THE CHINA SQUADRON.

London via Bombay, Jan. 27.

The results of the heavy gun-layers' tests of the Navy in 1909, show an improvement compared with those of 1908.

The China Squadron was first; the nucleus divisions of the Home Fleet second and third, and the first division of the Home Fleet, which contains the Dreadnoughts, was ninth.—*Reuter.*

GREECE.

London via Bombay, Jan. 27.

The Cabinet of M. Mavromichaelis has resigned.—*Reuter.*

FRANCE AND GERMANY.

IMPROVED RELATIONS.

London via Bombay, Jan. 27.

The German Emperor attended a reception at the French Embassy last night for the first time since the dispute over Morocco.—*Reuter.*

THE WORLD OF SPORT.

BOXING.

London, Jan. 27.

A twenty-round boxing contest between Johnnie Summers (of Canning Town, London) and Rudolph Unholtz (Australia) held in Australia resulted in a draw.—*Special Service.*

[As Summers went out to Australia under the management of Mr. Hugh McIntosh, it is probable that the contest took place at the Stadium, Rushcutters Bay. Little more than a month ago Summers was defeated by Freddie Welsh, at the National Sporting Club, in a contest for the light-weight championship of England. Unholtz, who is of Dutch extraction, fought three times in America for the light-weight championship of the world, but without success.—*Ed.*]

CRICKET.

In the second test match between England and South Africa, the South African team proved victorious by 95 runs.—*Special Service.*

LORD FISHER.

London via Bombay, Jan. 25.

The papers are full of appreciations of Lord Fisher (better known

as Admiral Sir John Fisher), upon his retirement to-day from the position of First Sea Lord.—*Reuter.*

GERMANY IN CHINA.

TRADE OF KIAOCHAU.

London via Bombay, Jan. 25.

Telegrams from Berlin state that the Colonial Office has issued a memorandum respecting the trade of Kiaochau, which, it is shown, has increased thirty-six per centum in 1909. The memorandum added that the output of the collieries had increased.—*Reuter.*

THE BRITISH NAVY.

A GRAVE ASSERTION.

London, Jan. 26.

Lord Charles Beresford, speaking at Dartford, in attacking the Government's naval policy, asserted that H.M.S. *Invincible* was useless and had been unable to fire her twelve-inch guns since she was commissioned.—*Exclusive Service.*

* * * The *Invincible* is an armoured cruiser of 17,250 tons and has a horsepower of 41,000. Her speed is twenty-five knots. She carries eight twelve-inch guns. A unit of the First Cruiser Squadron of battleship-cruisers, she has been considered one of our best men-of-war. The *Invincible* was launched in 1907 and commissioned in March, 1909.—*Ed.*

ROYAL GUESTS AT WINDSOR.

London via Bombay, Jan. 26.

Prince and Princess Fushimi of Japan lunched with King Edward and Queen Alexandra at Windsor yesterday.—*Reuter.*

GERMAN FINANCE.

IMPERIAL AND PRUSSIAN LOANS.

London via Bombay, Jan. 26.

German and Prussian four per cent loans for £17,000,000 sterling and £7,000,000, respectively, have been issued at £102.—*Reuter.*

JAPANESE SERVICE.

THE MANCHURIAN

RAILWAYS.

Tokio, Jan. 21.

At an extraordinary meeting of the Privy Council held this morning Count Komura, Minister for Foreign Affairs, briefly reported the terms of the United States proposal for the neutralization of the Manchurian Railways.

In the afternoon Count Komura sent a reply to the United States stating that Japan would not consent to the neutralization of her portion of the line.

PAYMENT OF MEMBERS.

Consent was given at the extraordinary meeting of the Privy Council held this morning, to an amendment of a law passed by the Diet, to enable increased allowances to be paid to members of Parliament.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Tokio, Jan. 22.

Marquis Katsura, Premier of Japan, speaking to the two Houses on the reassembling of Parliament, said that Japan's relations with the Powers were more cordial than ever, and it was especially to be noted that the Alliance with Great Britain had been further consolidated.

THE SOUTH MANCHURIA RAILWAY.

The South Manchuria Railway will shortly issue foreign debentures for Y.40,000,000.

THE CHINESE NAVY COMMISSIONERS.

Tokio, Jan. 23.

Prince Tsai Hsun, the chief Chinese Navy Commissioner, is expected at Changchun on January 28. He will spend two days there before leaving for Peking.

The South Manchuria Railway officials are preparing to give the Prince an appropriate reception.

LABOUR FOR HAWAII.

Tokio, Jan. 24.

Three thousand Gyliaks are said to have been recruited in the neighbourhood of Manchuria, the frontier town between Siberia and Manchuria, for employment in Hawaii.

Six hundred of these will embark at Tairen in the course of January.

A CATASTROPHE AVERTED.

Tokio, Jan. 25.

A fire broke out at the former Emperor's Palace yesterday, but was immediately extinguished.

FATALITY AT KAMAKURA.

Owing to the capsizing of a boat twelve students have been drowned near Kamakura.

KOREAN SELF-

GOVERNMENT SOCIETY.

Tokio, Jan. 26.

Dispatches from Mukden state that Korean students at the Chinese Normal School at Chientao have organized a Self-governing Society and have refused to abide by Chinese law.

Troops have been requisitioned for the purpose of dispersing or arresting them.

TAIREN.

Owing to the sudden cold at Tairen seventeen of the Chinese poorer class at Tairen have perished.

A MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.

Tokio, Jan. 18.

Count Komura, Minister for Foreign Affairs, speaking in the Lower House of the Diet this afternoon, said that the foreign relations of Japan at the present time were most cordial and especially emphasized the fact that the Anglo-Japanese Alliance was stronger than ever.

He hoped that the minor questions outstanding between China and Japan would be settled amicably.

Japan, he declared, adhered to the principle of the "open door" and equal opportunities in Manchuria; but the neutralization of the Manchurian Railways would upset existing conditions and, consequently, the Government had been compelled to inform America that it could not consent to the proposal.

The Government intended to adopt the statutory tariff principle with absolute equality. Count Komura also foreshadowed the abolition of the coastal trade privileges allowed foreign steamers.

SPECIAL SERVICE.

By Arrangement
with the "Ostasiatische Lloyd."

NEWS FROM EUROPE.

Berlin, Jan. 20.

The Chiragan Palace in Constantinople, in which the Parliament is meeting, has been destroyed by fire, in consequence of a defective heating apparatus. The German Reichstag has expressed its sympathy to the Turkish Parliament.

Mr. Knox, the United States Secretary of State, has stated that he has received from St. Petersburg the official refusal of Russia with regard to the neutralization of the Manchurian railways.

The German Consulate-General in Sofia has been converted into a Legation. At the same time the German Consulate at Rustchuk has been transferred to Sofia.

A terrible storm is prevailing all over Europe.

Halley's Comet has been seen in Mexico where it is visible even while the sun shines.

Jan. 21.

It is suspected that the conflagration in the Chiragan Palace at Constantinople was due to arson.

Efforts are being made in Berlin to bring about an exchange of German and English students.

The bank discount has been reduced by one half per cent.

Jan. 22.

M. Isvolsky, the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, has handed to the American Ambassador the written reply to the proposal of Mr. Knox, the United States Secretary of State. Russia agrees that the integrity and sovereignty of China, as well as the principle of the open door, shall be maintained in Manchuria, but declines to accede to the internationalization of the Chinese Eastern Railway, because it would injure both private concession rights and Russia's political interests. Russia will maintain her direct control over the railway. She will take into consideration the plan of a railway from Chinchoufu to Aigun, but desires, above all, further details, reserving to herself the right to decide in the matter at a later date.

Colonel General von der Goltz Pasha has been bidden farewell by the Sultan with all honours.

Colonel Marchenko, the Russian Military Attaché to Vienna, has been recalled, owing it is alleged, to a painful espionage incident.

On the occasion of the opening of the French exhibition in Berlin on the 25th instant a musical-literary entertainment will be given by the French Embassy. A number of artistes from the Grand Opera and the Comédie Française will come for this purpose from Paris. The German Emperor and Empress, the Crown Prince and Princess and Prince and Princess Henry of Prussia will be present.

A comet with a long tail has been observed in the territory from Wilhelmshaven to Transcaspi.

The Seine has overflowed its banks and caused heavy devastation.

Unusually severe storms are prevailing in the Mediterranean.

The mail which left Shanghai via Tairen and Siberia on January 6 was delivered in Berlin on the 21st instant.

Jan. 24.

Owing to commercial difficulties existing between Germany on the one hand and the United States of America, France and Canada on the other, the Economic Committee has been convened.

Herr von Loebell, Chief President of Brandenburg, has fallen seriously ill and has consequently been granted leave to retire.

The Spanish troops who fought in Morocco have re-entered Madrid.

The new comet has also been observed in Berlin.

Torrential rains have caused very heavy devastations in France.

Jan. 25.

The German Emperor and Empress opened to-day the French exhibition in Berlin.

A German four per cent loan of M. 340,000,000 and Prussian Bonds to the value of M. 140,000,000 will be offered on February 5 for subscription at 102.

The Economic Committee fully agrees with the attitude taken by the German Government with regard to the German-American commercial relations. The discussions on the relations

of France and Canada will take place to-day.

Ex-President Roosevelt is expected to arrive in Europe within the next few days. He will visit Vienna for three days and will be received during his stay by Emperor Francis Joseph.

The programme of Hakki Pasha, the new Turkish Grand Vizier, has received a vote of confidence in the Chamber.

Terrible snow storms are raging over the Baltic and the North Sea. All ship traffic has been stopped in Hamburg.

The inundations in France are steadily becoming worse. The Seine is still rising. At Paris, the Pont de l'Alma, the bridge connecting the Avenue de l'Alma with the Avenues Rapp and Bosquet, has been closed to traffic on account of the high water.

The mail which left Shanghai via Tairen and Siberia on January 7 was delivered in Berlin on the 25th instant.

Jan. 26.

The fête arranged by M. Camille, the French Ambassador, on the occasion of the opening of the French Exhibition at Berlin, which was attended by the whole Imperial family, was unusually splendid. The Emperor presented to the Ambassador a memorial tablet with inscription.

It is improbable that the commercial difficulties existing between Germany and the United States will cause a tariff war. The public opinion in America opposed to it is constantly growing. The difficulties, particularly those arising from the question of the importation of American meat, are decreasing. It is, however doubtful whether an agreement can be reached before February 8, when the present treaty will go out of force.

The German Colonial Office announces that the concession to act as mortgage bank for the German Colony of Kiaochow and the German land registers at Tientsin and Hankow is given to the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank.

The Khedive has returned to Cairo from his journey to Mecca.

Fearful storms are now also visiting Italy.

The inundations in France are still growing.

NEWS FROM EAST ASIA.

Peking, Jan. 20.

It has become known here, that Russia's refusal of the proposal of Mr. Knox with regard to the Manchurian railways is based on three reasons. First, the sovereign rights of China and the open door in Manchuria are by no means considered in St. Petersburg to be jeopardized by the present conditions. Secondly, the acceptance of Mr. Knox's proposal would prejudice many Russian enterprises in Manchuria. Finally, it is a vital question for Russia to retain in her control the only railway connecting Siberia with Vladivostok.

Jan. 21.

The Prince Regent has decided to appoint Lieutenant General Yin Chang Minister of War to succeed Tieh Liang, while H. E. Tang Shao-yi will go as Minister to Berlin.

Jan. 24.
Prince Tsai Hsun and the Chinese Naval Commission will arrive at Mukden on the 28th instant.

Jan. 25.
On the occasion of his birthday the German Emperor has conferred the Order of the Black Eagle upon the Prince Regent and the Order of the Red Eagle in diamonds upon Prince Ching.

Jan. 26.
Bands of Hungtuzes have appeared in the district of Linyu near Shanhai-kuan, making an attack on the district town. Viceroy Chen Kuei-lan has despatched six battalions of the second division to suppress the riots.

Nanking, Jan. 27.
The German Emperor has, on the occasion of his birthday, conferred the first class of the Order of the Red Eagle upon Viceroy Chang Jen-chun of Liangkiang.

LATE TELEGRAMS.

"THE JAPAN DAILY HERALD."

London, Jan. 15.
According to a telegram from Vienna the "*Fremdenblatt*" considers that the American Manchurian proposal is in reality directed almost exclusively against Japanese aspirations, and states that the prospects of its success are not bright.

According to an official report, the disputes between France and Turkey relating to the boundary of Tunis will probably be settled satisfactorily.

Jan. 17.
The "*Novoe Vremya*" and other papers urge a railway agreement with Japan.

New York, Jan. 17.
A meeting of the Governors of 45 States will be held to-morrow and the two following days. President Roosevelt held a similar meeting the year before last to prevent the different States from ignoring the Central Government's authority. President Taft has now followed Mr. Roosevelt's example. Generally speaking, the Governors of the different States are inclined to oppose the centralization of power.

Harbin, Jan. 18.
Three sentries belonging to a fortress at Vladivostok have been murdered whilst on guard. The assailants are still at large.

London, Jan. 21.
The Servian Cabinet has decided to expel Prince George from the country on account of his having insulted the Superintendent-General of Police, and the King has agreed to his expulsion.

"THE JAPAN ADVERTISER."

New York, Jan. 15.
President Taft has sent a special message to Congress advocating the conservation of lands and water sites for water power stations by immediate legislation of the most drastic order. The gradual absorption of nearly all the available sites for generating purposes by franchises has created a fear that a large combination may be possible in the future of all such companies that could control and regulate

the cost of power and light to the consumer. The measure proposed by President Taft in this message is to prevent any such possibility and also to conserve these natural sites by denying the granting of further exclusive rights to such sites.

President Taft has taken the rôle of peace maker between the warring factions of the Republican party, and has arranged a truce by promises to the so-called insurgents of a square deal and no favouritism, thereby avoiding at least for the time being a split in the Republican party. This is looked upon as a victory for the insurgents who will not accept the continued domination of Cannon and Aldrich.

Jan. 18.
The Washington authorities state that they are satisfied with the moral effect of the proposal for the neutralization of Manchurian railways, especially as it reveals the alignment of the Powers in their true light. The proposal has also forced Japan and Russia to the defensive as regards their Manchurian policy.

"THE JAPAN GAZETTE."

London, Jan. 15.
Reviewing the year 1909, the Russian newspapers are dissatisfied with the slow progress of reform, but are confident of the ultimate success of the constitutional system. Peace and foreign capital are necessary to develop the resources of the country. The papers hope that there will be less violence and fewer executions in 1910.

Vladivostok, Jan. 16.
The cold has increased during the last few days. The temperature is 23 degrees below the freezing point of Réaumur on an average. Thick ice forming in the harbour, the ice-breakers experience much difficulty in keeping the port open, and consequently steamship navigation is greatly impeded.

Jan. 17.
It has been decided that after January 1 (O.s.) persons not possessing valid passports will not be allowed to land. As the result of negotiations between the Japanese Consul and the Russian authorities, the Japanese have been specially exempted from this rule, and will enjoy their rights as before.

London, Jan. 18.
The Central State Barwani has been given ruling powers. The reigning Prince declares that he will not tolerate any political opinions inconsistent with loyalty to the British.

Hostilities have been resumed in Nicaragua. The revolutionists are reported to be victorious.

"SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST."

London, Jan. 16.
In the international football match England defeated Wales.

Jan. 17.
H.M.S. *Britannia* loaded 1,530 tons of coal in four hours at Portsmouth. This is said to be a record.

"THE JAPAN HERALD."

San Francisco, Jan. 20.
The Canadian Minister of Home Affairs introduced, on Wednesday, a Bill making the possession of G. \$300 a con-

dition of admitting an immigrant. The Bill is explained as a measure to check immigrants from America, but is apparently aimed at Orientals.

"THE 'HINA MAIL'."

Singapore, Jan. 21.
The steamer *Oscar II*, from Saigon to Europe, has stranded near to the Horsburg Light. It is likely that the steamer will be a total loss. The *Amherst* was damaged while assisting to help tow the steamer here. Further help has been sent to the *Oscar II*.

"THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD."

London, Jan. 24.
Charles Adams, head of a notorious gang, has been arrested in New York on a charge of swindling English people of £50,000 by a gold brick fraud. Among his victims was a widow residing in London, whom he defrauded of £10,000.

Germany is bringing her protectorates in the Pacific into direct communication with her submarine cable system by means of a wireless station on the Marianne islands.

The "*Matin*," of Paris, states that there have been several mutinies recently in Devil's Island, the convict settlement, in French Guiana. Convicts rowing a doctor and four warders mutinied, and threw their officers overboard, drowning them. The mutineers were ultimately recaptured.

The death is announced of Mr. Ernest Carpenter, manager of the Lyceum Theatre, aged forty-one years. Death occurred suddenly.

Dec. 26.
Widespread damage has been caused in Switzerland through heavy storms. The overflowing of the Seine has caused serious floods in Belgium, many factories having to cease work. Torrential rains have occurred in Spain and Portugal. The floods in Castille have been unequalled for fifty years. Bridges have been destroyed, crops ruined, and whole districts devastated. Railway communication in Portugal is almost at a standstill. The storm at Oporto swept away a vessel from her moorings, and she grounded on the sandbanks being abandoned by the crew. The gas supply failed in Oporto, and the city is in darkness. The River Douro has risen 40ft. The Houlder liner *Southern Cross*, bound for South America, went ashore in Vigo Harbour, on the west coast of Spain, and is in a critical position. The passengers are safe. The cargo and hull are valued at £94,000.

The death is announced of Miss Ellen Morrison, sister of the late Mr. Charles Morrison, a London financier, from whom she inherited £3,000,000. Miss Morrison's illness was diagnosed as appendicitis on Monday last, and she spent ten hours that night with her lawyers making a will. An operation was performed on Tuesday, but the patient never rallied. Seventeen nephews and nieces were bequeathed sums varying from £5,000 to £100,000 apiece. Miss Wilnot, companion of the deceased, receives £50,000. The estate will probably yield the Exchequer £600,000. The estate when inherited in May last paid the Treasury £250,000.

The Royal Colonial Institute is arranging a series of luncheons, at which prominent colonials will deliver addresses to city men. The idea is based on the project of the Canadian Club, which has branches throughout the Dominion.

A relief fund opened in connexion with the recent fire at Arding and Hobbs' drapery stores in Capham totals £5,000.

Dec. 27.

Inquiries into the murder of Mr. Jackson, the Collector at Nasik, Bombay, have led to the unravelling of a serious plot. Savarkar's brother, a law student, Orso, a native banker of Yeola, Bombay, and thirteen others, have been arrested. Orso is charged with financing the conspiracy in the Deccan. A mass of incriminating documents, and enough pistols and ammunition to exterminate the English population in the district, have been seized. The Bombay correspondent of "The Times" writes that the discovery of an arsenal at Nasik shows that the Arms Act has failed, and needs revision, with strengthening of machinery, to prevent illicit importation of arms. Resolute use should be made of the power of deportation. Criminal after criminal confesses, the correspondent continues, that he is inspired by the vernacular press. What is required is to make the sedition law more operative by taking security from all newspapers, and registering editors and managers. The correspondent adds that it is believed that the Government of India sought these powers, but was denied them by the Home Government.

Christmas and yesterday in London were fine and mild. Fifty thousand people were regaled in the workhouses, and 13,000 in the hospitals. The Salvation Army fed 60,000 people. The Christmas fund inaugurated by "The Daily Graphic" fed 13,000.

A board of officers at Washington is inquiring into the usefulness of fire-control masts introduced into the navy last year. There are allegations that the masts are subject to excessive vibration.

"The Daily Express" writes that in connexion with the pure milk campaign municipalities of London are striking 1,000 milk shops off the register in the new year.

The Dublin correspondent of "The Times" writes that a remarkable division exists in the Nationalist ranks, owing to the Budget. Objections to Redmondite candidates recall the Parnell split.

In connexion with the projected loan of £3,200,000, to be issued at Paris on behalf of Morocco, the envoys of Mulai Hafid, the Sultan, have accepted the terms of France, including the scheme for the establishment of a police force and other measures.

Dec. 27.

"The Times" calculates that there will be an increase in the next naval estimates of £5,000,000, making a total of £40,000,000, and an increase of £500,000 in the army estimates, the total thus being £28,000,000.

Names have been allotted to the war vessels laid down this year. The two

battleships of this year's programme, building by contract, will be named Hercules and Colossus. The name Orion will be given to the battleship being built in the navy dockyard at Portsmouth. This name was introduced into the navy list in 1787. The armoured cruiser, now building at Devonport, is to be called Lion, the fifteenth ship of that name in the Royal navy. The new cruisers are named Falmouth, Dartmouth, Weymouth, and Yarmouth. The names of the four extra Dreadnoughts, to be laid down in April next, will be Conqueror, Monarch, Princess Royal, and Thunderer.

A balloon, in charge of a lieutenant of the army, left Dresden on December 18, and passed Stockholm on December 19, since when it has been missing.

Foreign firms holding English patents expended £500,000 in purchasing land and erecting buildings and plant in England this year.

Rivers in Spain and Portugal have subsided. Several villages in the Valencia and Zamora districts were devastated. All the flour mills in Salamanca were destroyed. The captain and five of the crew of the German steamer Cintra, wrecked in the Douro, were drowned.

A blizzard swept over New York on Christmas Day. The snow is a foot deep, and in drifts outside four feet.

Ex-President Zelaya, of Nicaragua, will, it is expected, proceed to Europe, where he has accumulated a large fortune from perquisites derived from trusts. It is estimated that he received £8,000 per month. He left an empty treasury for President Madriz, his successor.

The late Senator Patania, a Neapolitan, was reputed to have left a fortune of £800,000 inclosed in a safe, but when the safe was opened it was found to contain nothing. The heir believes that the money and notes were stolen. He declares that Senator Patania's jewels were recently pawned.

In consequence of the activities of Patand, leader of the Paris Electricians' Union, M. Briand, the French Premier, secretly connected all the electric light stations in Paris with the generators driving the tube trains. Patand called on M. Briand on Christmas Eve and threatened to throw Paris in darkness unless the electricians were granted increased pay, but M. Briand refused, and Patand was helpless. The newspapers are rejoicing over M. Briand's ingenuity.

There has been much excitement in racing circles as to whether D. Maher would ride Neil Gow or Lemberg in the Derby, 1910. The owners of both colts offered offered large retainers for the services of the American horseman, who accepted that of Lord Rosebery to ride Neil Gow.

Dec. 28.

The National Defence Committee of the Duma has agreed to a credit of £150,000 to pay damages awarded to British shipowners under judgements of the Prize Court.

The American Ice Company has been fined £1,000 for attempting to establish a monopoly in the production and sale

of ice contrary to the Donnelly law of New York State. The New York correspondent of "The Times," commenting upon the decision, declares that Federal law against interstate monopolies is powerless against monopolies operating within the bounds of a single State. Hence the necessity of complementary State legislation wherever it is requisite to assist Congress.

Dr. Paul Rohrbach, one of the severest critics of the German Government, in an article blaming it for alleged pusillanimous concessions in Asia Minor and Morocco, started a rumour that an understanding had been reached with Great Britain to slacken the development of the navy. A semi-official statement, issued at Berlin, declares that the rumour is baseless, and reiterates that Germany does not intend to recede from her shipbuilding programme established by law. "The Daily News," commenting upon the declarations from Berlin, writes that the curtailment of that programme, which expires in 1917, is difficult for Germany to propose after so much heated national debate. The journal adds "It is well to face the facts and acknowledge that the most hopeful prospect at present is not the curtailment of the programme, but the reaching of some understanding regarding naval expenditure when the programme is fulfilled. Meanwhile the greatest obstacle is found not in the Governments, but in the scaremongers of both countries."

There is a mild winter in Canada, and great prosperity prevails. Work is plentiful. One hundred and fifty-six manufacturers need 5,962 skilled artisans.

The Thames Iron, Engineering, and Shipbuilding Works, in view of the provisional order of the Admiralty for the construction of a battleship of the super-Dreadnought type, is issuing debentures amounting to £50,000.

The new Russian steel industry has secured its first order abroad. The Obukoff Works, St. Peter-burg, are supplying England with 30,000 tons of steel.

"The Health and Vigour of an individual depend upon the quantity and quality of the blood. When the tissues have been at work, there are thrown into the blood waste products, and if these be not eliminated but (through any cause) detained in the blood, they influence nutrition and function and finally produce organic disease."—"The Humanitarian." In cases of Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of all kinds, the effects of Clarke's Blood Mixture are marvellous. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Clarke's Blood Mixture is sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. per bottle. Beware of worthless imitations and substitutes.—ADVT.

DELEGATES IN PEKING.

January 22.

It is plain that Peking is passing through extremely troublous times. The blessings of civilization, such as telegraphs and increased facility of communication, are often remarked to bring with them as many disadvantages as those they sweep away. But the truth of this saying must have become specially apparent to the Chinese Government since the fashion grew up in the provinces of sending delegates to the capital on every possible and impossible occasion. Regarded only as a recognition of the central authority, such attentions might, no doubt, be considered flattering; but in the circumstances of the case the compliment is one with which the central authorities could more comfortably dispense. For example, the question of railways they may be said to have ever with them. But it is easy to imagine that neither blandishments nor protests from abroad have caused the Government a quarter of the anxiety that is being given to it by the representatives from Hunan and Hupeh. The purpose that the delegation has in view follows the usual now familiar lines. The loan agreement with the four Syndicates must be cancelled, and the people of the provinces through which the line was to pass must be allowed to construct the railway themselves. There is nothing to show that the members of the delegation are genuinely representative of the collective will of Hunan and Hupeh; but there is equally no lack of precedent to suggest that the effect of their agitation may not be precisely the same as if they were. The loan agreement would appear, in any case, to be so far impeded from completion that the petition for its cancellation may, for the moment, merely be noted in passing. But in respect of construction by the provinces or by the Government, we touch the root of the matter. The latter contingency is at least as obnoxious to the provincials as the idea of a foreign loan. And while the Government vainly holds up the ideal of unification of the whole railway system of the Empire under central management, the unfortunate official of the Yuch'uanpu to whom the negotiations are entrusted is threatened with assassination if he dares so much as to hint at such a heresy.

Far more serious, however, because the issues are quite new and incalculable, is the business that has taken the Provincial Assemblies' delegates to Peking. The

exact number of them now in the capital is not certain; according to some accounts thirty-one, according to others fifty-one: the latter figure agreeing, as will be remembered, with the number of those who met in Shanghai at the close of last month. But one thing at least is clear, that the delegates have a considerable following and that they are very much in earnest; while the native Press affords indirect evidence that the progress of their mission is being watched with intense keenness. The delegates arrived in Peking on the 18th, and at once proceeded to lay before the Grand Council their proposals that, in view of the success attained by the Provincial Assemblies in their short session, October 14 to November, 23, and of the general advancement in educational and social activity now visible in the nation, the date of summoning the national parliament should be put forward from the prescribed eight years hence to next year, that is 1911. The statement that "several of the Grand Councillors were quite taken aback by this proposal" may well be believed. Still more overwhelmed were they when the delegates demanded to see the Prince Regent in person. Such a request, it was pointed out, was against all rules. But when the delegates replied that their business was equally unprecedented, and that, as many of them had come from great distances, they would insist on satisfaction, the Grand Council seems to have consented to forward the delegates' memorial to the Regent. By a device, however, that is truly characteristic of Peking, the date for presenting the memorial was fixed for the 27th or 28th instant. As was stated in these columns yesterday, the 28th is the day on which the seals of Government Offices will be closed as usual for the Chinese New Year holidays, and all business will be shelved, including of course the provincial delegates' memorials. Not unnaturally the trick has aroused the utmost resentment among the delegates and the position in Peking is described as critical.

The dilemma in which the Government finds itself before the delegates' determined attitude needs little demonstration. To reply, as indeed it can only be replied, that the country is in no state to be trusted with a parliament, will merely draw forth the retort that the provincial representatives are at least as capable as Peking of judging the capabilities of their own people. To grant the petition and call a kind of parliament is to

reproduce on a more important scale that hydra-headed monster the Provincial Assemblies, which the Government must already be repenting that it ever called into existence. The most reasonable solution of the difficulty, that the delegates should return home and divert their energies to cultivating public opinion by private endeavour, is not one that they are likely to adopt. We do not underrate the delegates' sincerity; but having bearded the Grand Council in its locked bed, and tasted the joys of notoriety, they may well be disinclined for the less brilliant, though more efficient, ways of propagating their faith that are open to them. It is to be feared that the only result of the mission to Peking will be fresh cause of agitation throughout the empire, where the springs of discontent are already sufficiently overflowing to occasion serious apprehensions. To take but one grievance, as old as China but never, perhaps, so keenly felt by the middle classes as it is to-day: we have seen edicts issued against nepotism; we have heard of this and that official being cashiered for this offence. But to all intents and purposes those edicts are a dead letter. With the appointment of each new official there arrives a swarm of friends and relations for whom the former official's retainers must give place. It is difficult for the foreigner to realize how heavily this custom bears upon the nation: and as the Provincial Assemblies grow to appreciate the functions exercised by their fellows in other lands, especially in the matter of appointing public servants and controlling revenue, this scandal of nepotism must provide the chief battle-ground between themselves and the present rulers. The time during which Peking will be able to keep the Assemblies in leading strings cannot last long. The people has seen the shadow of power, and every circumstance of the day augments its desire to give substance to that shadow. The best that Peking can hope for then is to be mercifully disregarded.

THE NEW ORDER IN COUNCIL.

January 24.

WE publish to-day a copy of the new Order in Council that will come into effect on February 25 next, to be known as "The China and Corea (Amendment) Order in Council 1909". Briefly, it deals with the publication or sale of seditious matter; and it sets forth

the increased powers of his Majesty's Minister in China to make King's Regulations or to join with the Ministers of friendly foreign Powers in making or adopting Regulations "for the creation, maintenance, discipline and control of a police force for any foreign Concession or Settlement in China." It needs no great perspicuity to trace an indirect connexion between this Order and two *causes célèbres* of the past twenty months. We refer, of course, to the prosecution of the late Mr. E. T. Bethell at Seoul in June, 1908, and to the action for wrongful dismissal brought against the Shanghai Municipal Council, two months earlier in the same year, by a former member of the local constabulary. In the Seoul case, it may be recalled, Mr. Bethell was tried under the Amendment Order in Council of 1907, on the complaint of the Japanese Residency-General in Korea; and counsel for the defence strove to show that none but the Korean Government was competent to move in the matter; and that as that Government and the Japanese Government were technically distinct from one another, the charge of stirring up sedition between the Korean Government and its subjects must be dismissed. To this the learned Judge, Mr. F. S. A. Bourne, replied that the King in Council could say that such and such an act done by a British subject in Korea should be a crime; and whatever sympathy might be felt for Mr. Bethell in respect of his having been misled by his Korean colleagues on the staff of the "*Da Han Mai Il Shimpo*," it was probably agreed by the majority of the public that the purpose of the Order in Council was too clear to be upset on the technical plea advanced. On one point, however, the Order was by no means explicit. It was left to the Judge to decide that he was competent to try the case without a jury, for which application had been made. But in arriving at this decision, Mr. Bourne pointed out that if the Crown intended to press for deportation on a further conviction, a jury would, in his opinion, have to be called. Here then, the new Order fixes procedure by introducing an entirely new clause to the effect that charges of this nature "may . . . be heard and determined before a Judge sitting without a jury or assessors." At the same time the sentence in the Order of 1907, which restricted deportation to failure to give security for good behaviour or to "further conviction for the like offence," is made more stringent by

omission of the words in inverted commas.

In so far as the circumstances of Mr. Bethell's trial were abnormal, and as it had served to establish a working precedent for the remote contingency of a similar case in the future, the urgency of this part of the Order is not too apparent. But the utility of a clear cut rule needs no emphasis. The best precedents are open to argument, and no opportunity should be lost of clarifying, wherever possible, the peculiar conditions under which foreigners reside in the Far East, until such time as the privilege of extraterritoriality may be safely surrendered. In respect of the management of police in foreign Concessions or Settlements, the new Order makes a step of which the necessity has long been apparent. In the case to which allusion was made above, considerable sympathy was felt for the plaintiff because of the obvious want of consistency between the spirit of a civil contract and the unwritten law of military discipline that must be imposed in any police force, particularly that of Shanghai. In October, 1906, it will be remembered, a King's Regulation was issued, under the signature of the British Minister in Peking, enjoining certain penalties for disobedience to the lawful commands of the superior officer, for desertion from the force, attempted desertion or attempt to procure desertion. But the fact alone that this Regulation was obviously inspired by the troubles that had then lately been brought to light in the Sikh branch of the force has given rise to doubts concerning its applicability to the European members. It has been stated in open court that there is no analogy between the position of European police and of soldiers serving under his Majesty; further, that the Captain-Superintendent had no power of himself to dismiss men for insubordination but merely to recommend them for dismissal to the Watch Committee. In short, while it was generally recognized that the conditions of life in Shanghai made it impossible that any breach of the unwritten law of military discipline could be overlooked, it was obviously unfair both to officers and to men that their position and the terms of their service should not be strictly defined.

The importance of the new Order in Council lies, therefore, as much perhaps as anywhere, in the indication it gives of the new Regulations for the control of foreign police which have been drafted under the direction of Sir Haviland de Sausmarez, Judge of His Majesty's Supreme Court, and will shortly

be promulgated. At the time of the recent disturbance in the Sikh branch, it was understood that new rules were being or were about to be drafted; and while the whole tendency of the organization of the Shanghai Police lies in the direction of a new system and special training, it is only natural that the standing of all branches alike should come under revision. But while we must wait for the regulations themselves before discussing their constitution, we would call attention to that clause of the amended Order which confers upon the officer in command of the force the right, where necessary, of inflicting summary punishment upon its members. The devotion to duty and general efficiency of the Shanghai Police are, we believe, too well recognized for any invidious interpretation to be put upon what we may say in commendation of this decision. As with many another regulation, it will certainly be found that, for the vast majority of the police, the powers now conferred upon the Captain-Superintendent are a dead letter. But for the few instances in which they may be employed (the police themselves would be the last to contend that any body of men can be quite perfect), it must be conceded that those powers are wisely given. Apart from the benefit of defining clearly the relationships of men and officers, the present system is cumbersome and incongruous, while the police-court publicity to which it may lead does no good to the force as a whole. Under the summary punishment system, police and public alike are protected from unfair usage by the manner in which the men are recruited, and, to take the lowest point of view, by the necessity of maintaining the numbers, not to mention the good feeling, of the force at a certain level.

CHINA AND RAILWAY EXTENSION.

January 25.

THERE can be only one attitude towards the progress of railway enterprise in China, and we must, therefore, welcome cordially the intelligence that the Government has been able to conclude another agreement for the construction of a railway with foreign assistance. As we announced on Saturday, the success of the financial negotiations for the proposed line from Chinchou to Aigun via Tsitsihar is to be regarded as assured. For the capi-

tal required, estimated at about £5,000,000. American financiers hold themselves responsible, while the building of the railway is to be entrusted to a British firm of railway contractors. In the present instance there is some hope of the Peking negotiations representing the final stage of the preliminaries to actual construction, at least of the first section of the line, owing to the absence of any formidable body of gentry and other local obstacles along the proposed route. The line would start from Chinchou, the bay forming the northernmost part of the Liaotung Gulf, with a station of that name on the Imperial Railway of North China, some fifty miles south-west of Koupangtze, the junction for Newchwang, and proceeding slightly east of due north, over the mountain range that dominates this eastern corner of Chihli, would cross (provided the necessary consent of Russia is first obtained) the Chinese Eastern Railway at Tsitsihar and thence follow the Nonni Valley towards Aigun on the Amur River. It is stated that a censor has been found to assume the rôle of the protesting gentry, who have become a stereotyped feature of Chinese railway extension, but as he would not carry the same weight with the Peking Government as a strong deputation of provincial representatives, his objections are likely to be disregarded. The more serious protest against the railway was to be anticipated from Japan and Russia; for while the former could plead that the new line was calculated to prove an even more dangerous rival to the South Manchuria Railway than the Hsinmintun - Fakumen line, Russia could object to a line crossing the Siberian route at Tsitsihar and continuing in a direction in which she would prefer to build the railway herself; or again she might have misgivings regarding the future of Harbin and the Kuangchengtze section of the Chinese Eastern Railway. Of the possibility of such objections being persisted in by Russia we have some indication in a telegram from our Peking Correspondent, but it is stated that Japan will not attempt to interfere with the project on the ground of its proving prejudicial to her interests in Manchuria.

Warned by the fate of the Hsinmintun-Fakumen Railway project, the originators of the Chinchou-Aigun Railway scheme would appear to have taken every precaution to smoothe away any possible international obstacles to the new line. They have, indeed,

gone farther; for according to a telegram in our issue of yesterday international co-operation in the loan is to be invited, as a proof of America's disinterestedness in the development of China. This altruistic attitude is thoroughly in keeping with the spirit of America's relations with China; but it is legitimate to question the advisability of extending the underlying policy to railway matters. With the early history of the Canton-Hankow Railway still fresh in the public mind, the United States would do well to obviate the least suspicion that the attention which she is now paying to Chinese affairs has for its object the obtaining of the maximum financial benefits without shouldering any of the attendant responsibilities. China would have little cause for gratitude, if, on the strength of the friendship between the two countries, she negotiated a railway loan with the United States only to find that the latter had retired content with its percentage, after having transferred the loan to other quarters that may be prevented by special circumstances from adopting that political aloofness on which the Washington Government prides itself. The anxiety to show disinterestedness is praiseworthy, but it would be well, in the event of an international partition of the loan, to safeguard China's interests by retaining a controlling share in the hands of the two Powers primarily responsible for the undertaking. We shall hope to learn, with fuller knowledge of the terms of the agreement, that there is no cause for misgivings on this subject. America, however, would not be the first country to produce an illustration of the difficulty experienced by financial circles in being actuated by any other than financial considerations. The intentions of the Government leave no room for doubt, but unless sufficient supervision is exercised over financial operations of this nature, there is the danger that national interests may be subordinated to the exigencies of finance.

Meanwhile, China has every reason to be satisfied with the prospect of an additional seven hundred and fifty miles of railway, which will bring the total length of her lines, laid or projected, to the neighbourhood of ten thousand miles. A further issue of debentures, it will be noted, is contemplated by the South Manchuria Railway; and, if the amount so raised is applied to railway extension and is not earmarked for Japan's participation in the Chinchou-Aigun Railway loan,

the outlook for this portion of the Chinese Empire, as far as improved communication is concerned, is most promising. Railway development formed the subject of an interesting passage in the able report on the movements of bullion in 1909 just issued by Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co., The similarity of conditions in India and China justify the belief that a Chinese Government inspired by sound motives could effect as marked a change in this empire with its superiority of resources as the more experienced British Government has done with the poorer material available in India. In these changes railway development has played no small part, for it has not only served to open up the country, but it has provided a practical means of coping with that dread scourge, famine, by expediting the arrival of relief. The result is thus summarized:—"The average Indian landholder, trader, ryot or handicraftsman is better off than he was fifty years ago. He consumes more salt, more sugar, more tobacco and far more imported luxuries and conveniences than he did a generation back. . . . The average villager eats more food and has a better house than his father; to a considerable extent brass or other metal vessels have taken the place of the coarse earthenware vessels of earlier times, and his family possess more clothes than formerly." There is no reason why a similar access of prosperity should not be China's lot under a wise and strong administration. Railways will not bring it without the latter; but every new line is an educative factor and must assist in bringing home to rulers and people alike the one great lesson to be learned—a conviction that no real progress in China is possible until its officialdom has been reformed.

A FRAGMENT OF OLD CHINA.

January 26.

We print this morning, by the courtesy of Sir Havilland de Sausmarez, a singularly interesting piece of hitherto unpublished correspondence between Commodore Anson and Lieutenant Philip Saumarez of H. M. S. Centurion; interesting alike for the quaintness of its spelling, for its vivid reminiscence of the very early days of British enterprise in China, and as an illustration of the faithfulness with which Chinese have clung to their policy of delay and evasion in dealing with the foreigner. The

pity is that the correspondence should break off so suddenly where it does ; though indeed the story of the voyage round the world which took Commodore Anson to Canton is famous, and its details are available from many sources. As will be remembered, Anson was sent to sea with a small squadron in September, 1740, to attack the Spaniards in the Pacific. One ship was wrecked in the straits of Le Maire ; two others he had to send back to Rio Janeiro. Of the two remaining vessels, the Centurion and the Gloucester, he was obliged to burn the latter before he started out across the Pacific to capture the galleons from "Manila." Considering the comparative scarcity of foreign shipping in Far Eastern waters a hundred and fifty years ago, and the probable nature of the vessel he commanded, it is marvellous that he should have succeeded in his quest before he sailed home triumphantly round the Cape of Good Hope, the first Englishman to have circumnavigated the globe since Drake. No doubt the pieces-of-eight must have come in extremely handy to replenish the Centurion's store of "bits of cloth and stuffs for waistcoats" for which Commodore Anson felt the need during the tedious days of "suspence" at Canton, "of all places I was ever in . . . the most disagreeable." Before the end of the Centurion's memorable voyage much besides her planking must have called for repairs.

To appreciate the importance of Commodore Anson's visit to Canton it is necessary to go back a little into the previous history of English trade in that part of the world, which may be said to have been set on a permanent basis in the year 1699; although trading was actually initiated by Sir William Courteenes' expedition in 1634 and three merchant vessels were sent out (never, unhappily, to return) as early as the latter years of Queen Elizabeth. At the time of the Centurion's arrival, the powers of the Hoppo appear to have been much curtailed by the jealousy of local officials, who considered that the customs collector was making far more profit out of the returns on foreign trade than a relatively insignificant personage of his standing had a right to expect. Otherwise, perhaps, Commodore Anson's object of obtaining stores and repairs, might have been more easily gained. The Hoppo's exactions were a continual source of trouble to the East India Company's supercargoes; but at least in him they would seem to have had an official through

whom they could occasionally obtain satisfaction. For example, in 1704 the Hoppo is found siding with the traders against the Emperor's Merchant, whose newly purchased monopoly of all trade with foreigners threatened to become an intolerable obstacle to business on both sides. Again in the year 1716 the supercargoes had obtained from the Hoppo a kind of charter defining "the usual privileges" which included many important though not unreasonable concessions, notably the right of exterritoriality. But by the year 1741 the liberties that English traders had been able to enjoy early in the 18th century had undergone an eclipse. In 1720 the establishment of the Hong Merchants' monopoly of foreign trade roused a frantic agitation among the supercargoes; but the latter, though protesting strenuously, could only put a momentary check on the innovation. In 1723 the practice of searching British ships, as they passed the Bocca Tigris, for arms and ammunition, a hitherto unheard of indignity, was put in operation. And in 1728 for the first time we find that British traders are forced to address the Chinese officials by petition sent through the Hong Merchants. The supercargoes did not submit to these burdens without a struggle; in 1730 they made representations to Peking, though what became of the document belongs to the region of forgotten history. But the weakest part of their position was that the directors of the East India Company, becoming fearful for the possible loss of their trade, inaugurated the fatal policy of compelling their representatives in China to meet exactions with conciliation and on no account to attempt an independent stand. No one needs to be told that the only result of this course was to encourage the Cantonese officials in outrageousness.

At this juncture Commodore Anson, not at all the kind of man as may be supposed to endure petty indignities to the flag, made his appearance; and there is little doubt that, for the time of his visit at least, his sturdy attitude effected a wholesome change in the behaviour of the Chinese officials. To him naturally the days between his first letter to Lieutenant Saumarez and his last were a "great suspence" and weariness. But when we think of the experiences of subsequent British commanders with far greater resources at their backs, particularly of the number of years for which the Cantonese were permitted to

evade that provision of the Treaty of Nanking which gave foreigners the right of access to their city, it must be thought that Commodore Anson was singularly expeditious. The Hoppo tried to prevent his going to Canton. Anson replied that if he did not receive a permit within twenty-four hours he would arm the Centurion's boats and go in them; needless to say the permit was forthcoming. He announced his intention of calling on the Viceroy and only desisted at the earnest entreaty of the supercargoes who feared that so unusual a course might imperil their trade. But at a later date, when the Centurion had been repaired and had made her successful sortie after the Manila galleon, Commodore Anson did succeed in seeing the Viceroy, who had been mightily pleased at the help given by the Centurion's men in putting out a dangerous fire at Canton. Probably his Excellency was still more pleased when the masterful Commodore finally sailed away. Anson used the interview to urge redress for the British merchants' grievances. Somehow the Viceroy contrived to avoid making any definite promise; and no sooner had the Centurion vanished over the horizon than the old exactions were increased and the supercargoes found themselves enmeshed in the old controversies. The history of British trade at Canton thenceforward to the First War with China is not pleasant or dignified reading. Throughout we have the same moral, which seems unhappily to



Jack gains every woman's heart
By his always looking smart.
Gained the love of dearest Sally.
Using for his clothes the DALLI.

"Dalli" the best, most simple and most comfortable way of ironing. Independent of stove and gas it can be used anywhere. Non-inflammable fuel without noxious fumes. No risk from fire; healthier and safer than any other iron.

Of all Storekeepers,
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Shanghai.

4 o a f 16-4-09 404 Nov, 6, 1909.

hold good to-day, that a conciliatory attitude where China is concerned is merely regarded as a sign of weakness. It is but fair to admit that in the conduct of very early explorers to China there was too often enough to justify a feeling of mistrust towards foreign visitors; and we know that where Chinese memory is not surprisingly short it is still more surprisingly long. Yet it cannot but be felt that a space of two centuries should have been enough for the Chinese to sift out friend from foe, reason from unreason; and that they have none but themselves to blame if the impression holds good abroad that, in dealing with the Middle Kingdom, might is the only recognized right.

HOME POLITICS.

January 27.

THE end of the General Election is now within sight and it is possible to gauge the results with sufficient accuracy to justify certain deductions. Of the one hundred and eleven seats still to be contested seventy-two are occupied by Liberal or Labour members, thirty by Unionists and nine by Nationalists. If no change in the representation of these constituencies takes place the new Parliament will meet with 323 Liberals and Labour members, 269 Unionists and eighty Nationalists. Some changes, however, may be anticipated, and it is more than probable that these will reduce the numerical difference between the two main parties. When, therefore, the present Government meets the House of Commons, its prospects in the face of a vote of no-confidence would depend upon the existence or non-existence of a pact with the Nationalists on the subject of Home Rule. If we are correct in our interpretation of the references to this subject recently made by the leaders of the Liberal and Irish parties, it will probably be found that the undertaking given by Mr. Asquith in the Royal Albert Hall, while sufficient for the exigencies of the elections, will not stand the strain of a cut-and-dried agreement acceptable at once to the whole of his own party and to all Nationalists. In such circumstances the support of the Irish vote, even if it could be relied upon to defeat a motion of no-confidence, could only be considered a precarious factor and the position must become sooner or later intolerable to the better judgement of the Liberal party. Mr. Redmond's idea that the new House of Commons would open its session with

the virtual abolition of the House of Lords, and then proceed to give Home Rule to Ireland, would not appear to conform to the frame of mind in which the Liberal party finds itself at the close of the elections. Nothing but the fervid imagination of Mr. Winston Churchill and Mr. Lloyd George could extract from the results of the present contest any special mandate for anything, unless it be a message to the Liberal party in the nature of the verdict associated with an Irish Court, "not guilty, but don't do it again." Even in Ministerial circles it would seem to be recognized that such a measure as Home Rule for Ireland would require a fresh appeal to the country, while even the reform of the House of Lords to be of permanent benefit would need the support of a large section of the Unionist party.

It is a matter, therefore, for little surprise that we should find the more judicious sections of both parties already beginning to look ahead in the hope of discovering some means of escape from the *impasse* with which the country is threatened. On Tuesday the ice was broken by "The Times" with a guarded suggestion that the parliamentary deadlock could be overcome by a compromise between the two parties, with or without the formation of a "centre" party, composed of the moderates of both sides, under a neutral leader. If the Liberals had felt as satisfied with their present position as the speeches of some of their extremists have tried to convey, such a proposal would have been flouted immediately as an insult to the Government. Instead of such an attitude, however, we have the "Westminster Gazette," the most reliable party organ in London, appearing with a moderate leading article couched in terms that almost summarize the contention put forward by the House of Lords when throwing out the Finance Bill. After emphasizing the importance of co-operation, presumably an echo of the sentiments expressed by "The Times," the "Westminster Gazette" states that it is a reasonable claim for the House of Commons that it should exercise full power over questions of finance, provided it does not abuse that power by tacking on to money bills questions demanding separate treatment. The case against the Finance Bill, as far as the Upper House was concerned, rested primarily on this very point, that the greater part of it could claim no share in the traditional inviolability of the Budget. If the

views of the Liberal organ are accepted by the party as a whole and acted upon by the Cabinet, the political outlook becomes more hopeful. The land taxes, which evoked the greatest opposition among all the new features of Mr. Lloyd George's legislation, were not calculated to make much addition to the first year's revenue; and could well be omitted, by mutual consent, from the Budget that will have to claim the immediate attention of the new Parliament. In regulating the anomalous conditions produced by the rejection of the Budget the Government can count with certainty on the support of the Opposition, if it displays the conciliatory spirit now inaugurated by the "Westminster Gazette."

If we may suppose Parliament to have arrived at this stage, it becomes unnecessary to advocate a "centre" party under a neutral leader. Mr. Asquith enjoys the personal respect of both sides of the House and only in the event of his retirement from the Liberal leadership would a "neutral" Premier—the name of Lord Rosebery is inevitably conjured up by the adjective—be necessary or desirable. If a compromise can be reached on the question of the Finance Bill, there should be little difficulty in approaching the subject of the reform of the House of Lords on lines that can commend themselves to both parties. Even in the absence of any definite promise on the part of Mr. Balfour it is generally accepted that the Unionists were prepared, in the event of being returned to power, to take up the problem of remodelling the constitution of the Upper House with a view to enhancing its efficiency as a second Chamber. By none but an extreme Radical is the House of Lords judged by a chance peer who may not be above the standard attributed to his whole class in comic papers. The thinking elector regards the House in the light of a valuable tradition which until now has been the strength of England. If it be replaced by an elective assembly it becomes a second House of Commons, a collection of individual politicians having no links with the past and no duties towards the future. One scheme that has already been proposed with some authority would reduce the total number of members to four hundred, of whom one hundred and fifty should be hereditary peers and the remainder non-hereditary; the former to be elected by the present peers, the latter to be partly elected and partly nominated by various public bodies. The

subject is one for the careful consideration of the people's representatives when any heat and bitterness engendered by the election have passed away; for if no positive mandate stands revealed by the verdict of the electorate, there is at least the negative inference that the mad desire of certain demagogues to sweep away the House of Lords finds no real echo among the bulk of the people. Then, when this problem has been solved, the country, if the Liberal party desire it, may once more be appealed to for a verdict on Mr. Asquith's scheme of Home Rule with its "Imperial safeguards."

NOTES & COMMENTS.

January 22.

THE ELECTION.

With the results of Thursday's contests the general election has entered upon a stage of intense excitement to those who are able to project themselves into the hurly-burly of these days in Great Britain. The number of members of the new Parliament already elected up to Thursday amounts to 382, leaving 288 seats still to be contested. Of the 382 members 163 are Unionists, 166 are Liberals or of the Labour Party, and 53 are Nationalists. The remaining seats consist of about 185 English county constituencies, a score of seats in Wales, between forty and fifty in Scotland and the remainder in Ireland. If the Welsh and Scottish seats, with the exception of the six or seven at present returning Unionist members, are reckoned Liberal and the Labour Party experience no further losses, the two chief parties are left in the following position:—Unionists 173, Government 224, with 185 seats uncontested. Thus, apart from the Irish vote, the Unionists have only to maintain their present rate of progress among the English counties to secure 128 seats out of the 175 and thus draw level with the Liberal numbers. Such a result will, unfortunately, make the Irish vote master of the situation and will not conduce to the smooth running of parliamentary business.

THE HOME RULE PROMISE.

If the present balance of parties, as Mr. Asquith affirms, has removed Tariff Reform from the parliamentary arena, it has with equal certainty scotched the Single Chamber menace. On the other hand it will have made Home Rule for Ireland a very real issue, unless more election pledges are to go by the board. Speaking at the Royal Albert Hall on December 11 on the occasion of the monster demonstration of the Liberal Party, Mr. Asquith said:—

"Speaking on behalf of my colleagues and, I believe, of my party, I say that the solution of the problem (Irish discontent) can be found only in one way, by a policy which,

while explicitly safeguarding the supreme and undeniable authority of the Imperial Parliament, will set up in Ireland a system of self-government in regard to purely Irish affairs. There is not, and there cannot be, any question of separation; there is not, and there cannot be, any question of rival and competing supremacies. But subject to these conditions, that is the Liberal policy. For reasons which, I believe, I have adequately described, the hand of the Government was tied in advance from proposing any such solution, but in the new House of Commons the hands of the Liberal Government and of the Liberal majority will be entirely free."

There can be no doubt as to the plain meaning of these words. Mr. Redmond's immediate comment upon them was that Ireland now had the best chance she had had for a century of "tearing up and trampling under foot the infamous Act of Union." Again, he said that Mr. Asquith's statement meant the coming back of the whole Liberal Party to the standard of Gladstone. It is unnecessary to enter at length into the whole case against Home Rule. We are concerned here only with what the words conjure up in the minds of most English electors. Briefly expressed, it is that Home Rule means a separate Irish Parliament with a separate Irish executive formed from the Nationalist party, which was responsible for the Plan of Campaign and organized boycotting and intimidation. To the mercy of these men will have to be handed over the loyal and law-abiding minority, which has only the presence of the Union Government to protect it from the pains and penalties with which it has been threatened during the last generation. Furthermore Ireland, unlike a distant colony which can be given self-government and allowed to work out its own salvation, is an integral part of the United Kingdom, and in the event of hostilities with a foreign Power no scheme of defence could cope with a situation that allowed Ireland under a hostile Government to become a base for operations against Great Britain. That some of these old fears so thoroughly appreciated in 1885-6 have been revived is to be inferred from the intelligence conveyed by a telegram in yesterday's issue. The course of the elections would seem to have required some modification of the confident tone that was deemed suitable enough on December 10, and the Chief Liberal Whip is put forward to deny that any definite pledge of an inevitable grant was actually given. Whatever view of this strange action on the part of the Liberal Government may be taken by the English elector, it may be assumed that the Irish members in the new Parliament will not allow "the best chance of a century of tearing up and trampling underfoot the infamous Act of Union" to be thus withdrawn from their grasp without a struggle. If, therefore, the Liberals remain in power with a majority dependent on the Irish vote, there must either be

a second *volte face* to the letter and spirit of the Albert Hall pronouncement, or a stormy season must ensue. The question at once arises, will the somewhat insecure cohesion of the present Ministry remain proof against such a strain? In inverse proportion to the conviction with which an affirmative answer is given will vary the strength of the outcry against the motor car that "wins" country elections.

January 25.

THE CASE OF THE "MIN HSU PAO"

We publish to-day the complete correspondence dealing with the case of the "*Min Hsu Pao*," which has courtously been communicated to us; and fully as that case has been detailed in these columns, the interest of having the exact letters that passed at different times between Mr. Morgan-Phillips, the Japanese Consul-General, the Mixed Court Magistrate and the Consular Body, and in conclusion Mr. Morgan-Phillips' letter of January 18 to the Municipal Council, will not be underestimated. It will be noticed that Mr. Morgan-Phillips' letter was laid before the Council on the 19th, but that up to the present no answer has been received. We hope earnestly that the Council will yet be moved to take some steps in the matter, both for the preservation of good feeling among Chinese resident in the Settlement, and in the interests of justice. We hold no brief for what the "*Min Hsu Pao*" may or may not have said in the articles to which objection was raised. But however obnoxious it may have been, however desirable it is that native newspapers should be kept under control, to deny them the common justice of an ordinary trial is scarcely the way to bring them into a better frame of mind. As Mr. Morgan-Phillips rightly points out, a dangerous precedent will be established, if the case remain where it now stands; and the effects of that precedent are likely to recoil in the least expected or desirable directions. From the Consular Body nothing further apparently can be hoped, in the absence of some action by the Council. The recommendation that Mr. Morgan-Phillips should apply for a re-hearing—when there has not even been a hearing—is too obvious an evasion for its significance to be missed. As regards the "*Min Hsu Pao*" itself, some loophole may be found in the shape of publication under another name. We know that the Taotai's conduct has aroused the hot indignation of Prince Su, President of the Ministry of the Interior, who is described as one of the strongest and most progressive men in the Government; and that a searching inquiry has been ordered of the Viceroy at Nanking. But none of these considerations affects the point at issue, namely, that it should be possible for a Chinese official, at the beck of a foreign Consulate arbitrarily to interfere with the liberties of any body of men inside the Settlement, without question from those who are delegated to protect the Settlement's

inviolability, and without protest made against such outrage to justice.

BEET-GROWING IN SUFFOLK.

From time to time the suggestion has been made that the farmers of the Eastern Counties in England should turn their attention to beet-growing for the manufacture of sugar; and quite recently it was proposed to establish such a factory at Sleaford, on the evident assumption that there would be no lack of material wherewith to feed it. The announcement made in these columns yesterday, that Suffolk farmers had accepted offers from a Continental firm to grow beet, the Continental firm supplying the seed gratis and giving seventeen shillings a ton for the produce, indicates that one part at least of the scheme is to be accomplished. The firm which makes this offer also undertakes to supply an analysis of any samples of soil sent, and to advise as to the best manures. The produce will be shipped from Ipswich or Parkeston, and will be carried on rail, by the Great Eastern Railway Company, at the same cheap rate as feeding beet. In plain language this arrangement undoubtedly means that the Eastern Counties are better fitted for beet-growing than Germany. A great part of the German 1909 crop was frozen in the ground at a time when English plants would have been quite uninjured; and, it is said, the foreigners' confidence in Suffolk soil is indicated by the fact that they wish to see 200 acres of the county under beet. One cannot repress the thought that much of the now almost traditional depression of English agriculture might be lightened, if the English farmers as a body would turn their attention to other enterprises than those which they have accepted faithfully from their ancestors. It is said that the Suffolk farmers are likely to do well even at 17s. a ton for their produce. But it is a fair argument that they might do far better by combining to manufacture their own sugar, instead of sending abroad raw material, of which much doubtless will return in the form of the sugar for which Great Britain annually pays to the Continent some £17,000,000.

RUSSIA IN LONDON.

As evidence of the growing friendliness that exists between Great Britain and Russia it is noteworthy that active preparations are being made for a Russian Exhibition to be held in London in 1911. According to the "Daily Telegraph," quoting a Russian informant, for some time past British industrial products in Russia have rightly enjoyed a reputation for excellence, and it is felt by Russians that they would like the British people to see what products Russia is capable of producing. The fundamental idea of the exhibition will be to give the British people a knowledge of the resources of the Tsar's vast territory as a country whence Great Britain can get raw materials, half-finished products, and foodstuffs of which she stands in need, and also to acquaint the English people with Russian life and character so far as this can be done by an exhibition.

Among the exhibits that are to be shown will be farm produce, agriculture, machinery, mining, textile manufactures, wine and national drinks, fancy goods, ethnological, sports, game, fish, and furs, village industries, with native workers, Siberia, Mid-Asia and the Caucasus, reproductions of noted buildings, &c. The undertaking, we are told, will be purely Russian and, as its chief object is the encouragement of trade relations between England and Russia, profit will not be sought for. At the same time, the idea would appear to have been already warmly received by British firms, many of which have taken part in exhibitions in Russia with good success. We may note in passing that if the exhibition serves to bring home to British firms the opportunities now given for agricultural implements and machinery generally in Siberia, it should more than justify itself. By the evidence of every traveller, the possibilities of Siberia in the near future are likely to be incalculable. Its wants are already manifest, but unhappily they appear as yet to be little realized in Great Britain, though the dispatch of a few Russian-speaking agents could hardly fail to yield excellent profits and to establish a useful connexion with the development of this great land.

January 27.

THE HISTORY OF SHANGHAI.

Not the least interesting feature of this week's Municipal Gazette is the lengthy report by Mr. G. Lanning on the progress that he has made with the history of Shanghai, on which he has been engaged for the past three years. As he tells us, the idea of writing such a history came to him in 1906 while he was yet headmaster of the Public School. Old residents die or leave China; times change; and the origins of Shanghai are lost, even while there are thousands who would prize a careful account of those origins. For as Mr. Lanning truly says: "There never before was such a politico-commercial complication mingled with such conspicuous success"; and apart from its interest, the history of Shanghai is a legitimate source of pride on which its inhabitants may love to dwell. It was soon evident, however, that the work of historian could not be carried on concurrently with that of educationalist. The latter rôle was therefore abandoned; and Mr. Lanning set to work in earnest on the records of Shanghai. Mr. Cecil Holliday, then Chairman of the Council, having obtained for him access to the British and American Consular archives. That the sources of information soon began to widen alarmingly, may be seen from the enormous list of authorities that Mr. Lanning quotes. Over and above these he has been promised stories of the old hong; and it is interesting to note that he has been able to interview Mrs. Lockhart, who was the first foreign lady to land in Shanghai. He ends with an earnest appeal to all old residents, here or elsewhere, to supply him with old letters, diagrams, pictures and maps and whatever personal recollections

they can adduce, particularly those that have not yet found their way into print. This is a request that we heartily endorse. The history of Shanghai must contain no less romance than science. It is not surprising, perhaps, that Mr. Lanning should begin to feel doubtful of his ability to finish such a work within the prescribed five or six years. No one indeed would wish the book to be scamped by pressure of time. But there seems no reason why a first instalment might not be published when ready. The History of Shanghai will certainly be a big book, and might well appear in two or three volumes.

POSTAL INEFFICIENCY.

Our Peking correspondent whose letter we publish to-day inserts a timely and well-deserved censure on the inefficiency of the Chinese Imperial Post Office. The mail service, he tells us, has become a cause of great discontent to the Peking public, and with good reason, considering that up to the 19th instant no communications from Shanghai of a later date than January 6 had been received. Yet with a very ample allowance for possible delays at Nanking and Hankow, it is calculated that mails from Shanghai of the 10th might well have been received in Peking by the 15th, had they been sent by river and railway. In point of fact our correspondent's own letters, of which it will be noticed, we publish two, are as good an illustration of postal irregularity as any that he quotes. One letter is dated the 11th, the other the 19th, and both arrive simultaneously, late on the 25th. Considering that the interruption of the ordinary steamer service by Tientsin is an annual event, due to the freezing of the Peiho, it is extraordinary that no attempt should have been made to keep the mail service up to date by making proper arrangements for another route. Even if the Peking-Hankow line be not available, though it is difficult to imagine any reason to the contrary, the least that could be done, as our correspondent urges, would be to give some fairly accurate information as regards the sailings by Chinwangtao. The Government, it is believed, would probably meet the postal authorities if the latter showed some enterprise on behalf of the public. While we are on the subject of the Chinese Post Office we may draw attention to a somewhat high-handed decision that has lately made itself felt. The distribution of newspapers along railway lines is, in most European countries we believe, an affair for private arrangement between the railway companies and the newsagents or publishers. The station book-stalls of Messrs. W. H. Smith, and the special morning newspaper trains out of London, readily occur to mind as examples of what we mean. It has, however, been decided by the Chinese Imperial Post Office that no newspapers may be sold at the stations on the Shanghai-Nanking Railway unless they have passed through the Post Office. The decision is all the more devoid of reason in that, if we are not mistaken, the railway does not receive a penny in subvention for carrying mails;

with the result that both railway and newspaper-subscribers are penalized to provide the Post Office with revenue to which it has no just claim. Until redress is given in complaints of this nature, the Post Office may be Imperial but cannot be called national.

THE STORY OF NG AH-DAU.

The Municipal Gazette that appears to-day contains one of the most human, most moving documents that could well be imagined. It is the story of the illegal arrest and torture, in the City Magistrate's yamen, of the tipao Ng Ah-dau, as told by himself. Even if the details were not attested from other sources of information, there is a ring of sincerity, a simplicity about the manner in which the terrible narrative is told, which would surely carry conviction. We have already commented so fully upon this case that we do not propose to go into it again in *extenso*. But there are one or two points that call for emphasis. The fact of Ng Ah-dau's having received 200 blows in the face with a piece of leather appears now for the first time, if we remember rightly. Over and above this he tells us that he received, in all, 5,600 blows with a bamboo between the 7th of the 7th moon and the day on which the Magistrate was forced to let him go. But the point that appeals most is this: that, whatever seriousness there may have been in the charge on which he was first arrested and dragged across the Soochow creek, all else was eventually lost sight of but the Magistrate's desire to revenge himself on his wretched prisoner because the foreigners were moving for the man's release. When we remember that but ten days ago an Imperial decree was published cashiering a Shantung official for having tortured a prisoner to death, we may wonder what precise degree of torment must be inflicted before an official is considered sufficiently guilty of "cruel and improper conduct" and of contravening the law against torture. Towards the close of the incident the City Magistrate would appear to have become apprehensive that complaint might be made against him in Peking. It is earnestly to be hoped that that apprehension will prove justified, and that the complaint will receive proper attention. According to the medical reports of Dr Billingham, Dr. Krieg and Dr. Stanley that appear in the Gazette, there seems to be a reasonable hope that Ng Ah-dau will recover under proper treatment. But a permanent disgrace to Shanghai will have been left, and there will be no guarantee against a repetition of the offence, if his tormentor be allowed to escape exemplary punishment.

FROM THE PULPIT.

Notes of a sermon preached by the Rev. C. E. Darwent in Union Church Sunday January 16.

JONATHAN.

Samuel XVIII. I. "The man was knit with the land"—II. Samuel 1.26 Thy

love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women."

There was no subject to which ancient moralists paid more attention than that of friendship. Euripides says "There is no blessing like a prudent friend." Menander says that the "wisdom of friends is common property." Demosthenes said that it is impossible without similarity of interest. We all know that Cicero wrote a whole treatise on it and several classical instances of friendship, like that of Damon and Pythias, have come down to us. Friendship occupied a great place in ancient thought. It does too in the Old Testament, especially in the book of Proverbs. I have, however, often been struck in reading the New Testament, that very little is said about friendship. The word friendship occurs twice only. "The friendship of the world." There is no copious eulogy of it such as we find in classical writers and this surprises us. There are probably two reasons for it. One, that St. Paul and the apostles were so filled with the sense of the presence and friendship of Jesus Christ that human friendships had become quite secondary. Of course men who lived in the power of Christ as intensely as St. Peter and St. Paul did not require human friendship as much as Cicero and Caesar to whom the universe was a ghastly empty void, apart from humanity. Then among those early Christians the general sense of Christian brotherhood was so intense, that perhaps they did not feel the need of personal friends so much. There was no such thing then as Christians sitting in the same church for years and then needing to be "introduced." The fact that a man was a Christian was enough. Nationality did not count. "See how these Christians love one another" could be said then. No Freemasonry has ever been such a bond of union as was this early faith in Christ. Still, this was not intended to kill friendship. Jesus Christ had three special friends. St. Paul loved Timothy. I expect they took for granted that we all need friends; only they tried to make all men friends, which is surely the ideal; Jesus Christ aimed at that: "Ye are my friends" He said. And where in all literature is there an example of friendship to equal that of David and Jonathan? There is not a mean feature in it. No cynic could say of this friendship as the French cynic said 2,800 years later, "There is something in the misfortunes of our friends that is agreeable to us." It sprang up over the affair of Goliath. David's heroism and faith captured Jonathan's heart. I am inclined indeed to think that the whole story of Goliath has captured boys' interest in the Bible more than almost any other chapter. "The soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David." "Knit!" Things knit together will stand stress and much wrenching. They will bear weight and straining. It was no fair weather friendship. "Passing the love of women." Could it? What does that mean? The only clue that I can find to it is that men's friendships are more enduring than

those of women. Small grievances do not affect them so much. There are more middle-aged men who have old friends than there are middle-aged women. And marriage makes more difference to women than it does to men. So there it is, that friendship "passes the love of women" sang David on the bloody field where his friend lay dead.

And what tremendous shocks this wonderful friendship stood! There is the dinner scene. Saul notices that David's place is vacant. Jonathan excuses him. "Then Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan and he said to him, Thou son of the perverse and rebellious woman, do not I know that that thou hast chosen the son of Jesse to thine own confusion! And Saul cast a javelin at him." And then we have a notable bit of real friendship. "So Jonathan arose from the table in fierce anger, and did eat no bread the second day of the month; for he was grieved for David, because his father had done him shame." That is something like friendship! As it has been said by a very deep thinker. "We say blood is thicker than water, but here in Jonathan right is thicker than water." There are times when we are bound to oppose even our own flesh and blood, a son his father and mother. The world has been made by people who have done that. "He who loves father and mother more than me is not worthy of me" says Jesus Christ. Was there ever such a friendship? Jonathan knew perfectly well that David was to supplant him. That was a strain on friendship. A throne is not to be lightly thrown away! Who of us could have stood that test? What a world it would be, if we were all as unselfish as Jonathan! "And now behold I know that thou shalt surely be king" said Jonathan to David. "He loved David as his own soul." What a royal nature was Jonathan! No jealousy, only a beautiful self-effacement! And Jonathan does not spoil his goodness as we do, by half regrets at having to be so good. Many a man will give a generous donation, or do a kind deed, but is often enough annoyed at having been asked, and there he loses moral credit. To do a kindness unwillingly is to spoil the deed altogether. Jonathan was not like that. His soul was knit with David's. He gave him his garments "even to his sword, and to his bow and his girdle." In such an age as that when a man lived by his sword, this was a final proof of friendship. Here is indeed on earth "a friend that sticketh closer than a brother"

Let us then consider this matter of friendship "without which" as Bacon says "the world is but a wilderness." We are made for the society of our fellow-creatures. We will have friends. As Ford says in his "Gatherings from Spain" "the social necessity of having a friend never comes home to the warm heart more than during a solitary ride in the Peninsula." So it is in life, we must have friends of some kind. And as a rule they make us or mar us. As has been said by a wise man, "Evil gathers nine-

tenth of its fatal power from the companionships through which it operates." That is a golden sentence, a useful notice-board for us all. There are more social sots than solitary sots. Half the good men who break out into an immoral life would not do so, if they had no chums to back them up. Incipient vice is timid, as it ought to be. We are much in the power of our set. As Samuel Rutherford says of youth, "The affections are on horseback, lofty and stirring." It is hard to stand against our set, if we are once in it. The "companion of fools" is likely to be a fool. This is the teaching of Scripture, and it is scientific too; for the Darwinian teaches that we come to resemble our environment, as the butterfly is like the dappled leaf it lives on. Do let us see to it, if we can, that our friends are the right kind, as were Jonathan and David. A whole dynamic of good and evil destiny is wrapped up in our friendships.

But now just at this point, there is one thought which arises, which possibly may be making the sermon futile to you, as I have to confess all sermons on friendships that I have ever heard have seemed to me. The fatal assumption they have all made has been this, that we *choose* our friends. Wonderful advice is given to youth just beginning to navigate the tricky seas of life, "do be careful in choosing your friends." But as a rule that is just what we do not do. We fall into them; we join a firm, live in a house where other people are, drift into our friendships. Chance has much to do with it. We do not choose friends, as a housewife chooses the ripest apples out of the fruiterer's stock. No one does that at all. My particular friend Brown may be a good man I chanced to meet on a steamer. There is no knowing. This plain fact of human life used to seem to me to make futile all advice about choosing friends.

I thought this until I came to look into this friendship of David and Jonathan and then I saw that that sprang up quite accidentally. There is no more excellent evidence of the fact that these Bible stories are true to life than this. When Jonathan got up that morning he did not know there was such a young fellow as David. Then came David's surprising slaughter of Goliath and Jonathan's heart leapt out to him. "His soul was knit with David's." He just could not help it. This classical friendship then was quite as fortuitous and as little due to choice as the friendships of the rest of us. It came about as the result of circumstances as the great majority still come about. This is where the story is so helpful to us.

So now notice how, in spite of it being as we may call it the result of chance, it came out well. It was a case of one good man coming across another good man. Can anyone imagine that Jonathan could possibly have struck up an intimate friendship with a conceited coxcomb like Absalom, if he had been in David's place, as he did with David? I do not think so. Like draws to like. The soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of

David. A bad man can often do a brave deed; and a conceited puppy like Absalom might have done it. But we cannot think of Jonathan making him his friend. The man Jonathan felt that he could love as his own soul was the man who said to Saul when the King questioned his ability to meet the giant, "The Lord that delivered me out of the paw of the lion and out of the paw of the bear will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine." The point for us, then, is, that the set of friends we are in, is a sure indication of our character and tastes. I am sure of this, that generally when a man of good principles and habits falls into a bad set, it is because he has had a hankering after evil and he has taken the first chance of making friends of those who have already gone the way he is hankering after. A man who has been sober but who easily falls into the ways of tipplers has had a craving for drink that only his former good associates have kept in abeyance. The kind of friends we make is an indication of what we really are. A man who on arrival here falls into a vicious life has had a strain of corrupt desires in him that in his new surroundings he lets come out. Jonathan loved David as his own soul, and David, we know the man he was, was God-fearing, brave, high-principled.

And here then is the point for us. All depends on ourselves. The kind of man or woman we are determines the set we fall into. We admit that we cannot choose our friends, as if we had the whole population round us and we picked out those we like. That never happens. We fall in with friends. But here is the lesson. Cultivate the instincts and tastes of Jonathan, and you will find the right kind of David as friend. We get the friends we deserve, just as it is said every country gets the Government that it deserves. Keep alive your religious life and it will be impossible for you to love as your own soul those to whom God is a myth and goodness weakness. Be true to your conscience and your friends must be men who have a good conscience. Keep the soul clean and pure, and you cannot make friends of those who "have eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; a heart exercised with covetous practices." Life is no doubt full enough of temptations, but whether they lay hold of us depends on ourselves. Every man's destiny is in his own keeping. If we become companions of what the Bible calls "fools," that is, shallow, irreverent, superficial,

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thoughtless fellows who are dead to the divine meaning of life, it is because we have adopted their point of view and have become like them. "Jonathan's soul was knit with the soul of David, a man after God's heart." Demosthenes was, therefore, quite right when he said "true friendship is based on similarity of interests."

THE NEW RAILWAY HOSPITAL.

The Shanghai-Nanking Railway Administration is to be congratulated on the step it has taken to secure for its employees hospital accommodation as well as competent medical and surgical treatment. For some time the Administration has had the services of Dr. J. P. Ziervogel at Shanghai, and Dr. Urbánek has been doing good work at a small hospital at Chinkiang. Dispensaries were established at various stations along the line, but these were not altogether satisfactory and now a hospital has been opened at No. 132 Range Road. While this hospital is primarily for railway servants of all nationalities, and is endowed by the Railway Administration, yet it will be open for any medical man in Shanghai to send patients there, but of course, he will give to them the benefit of his own skill. This hospital, which it is hoped will have to be only used until such time as a larger institution can be established, is under the charge of Dr. Ziervogel, who will have the services of a qualified European matron, two European nurses and a Japanese nurse.

The hospital is a semi-detached house with large and well-lighted rooms. The foreign matron has her quarters on the ground floor in the front of the building, and at the rear is a ward for Chinese, three of the six beds being occupied already. On the first floor is the first-class Chinese ward with three beds in it, an Indian ward with five beds, and a well-appointed operating theatre which is specially lighted. The second floor is given up to private rooms for foreign patients, and the quarters of the two European and one Japanese nurses are on the top floor.

The opening ceremony was performed on Friday at noon by H. E. Taotai Chung Mun-yew, Chairman and Managing Director of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway. There were also present Mr. A. W. U. Pope, C.I.E., General Manager, Mr. E. R. Morris, Deputy General Manager, Dr. J. P. Ziervogel, Principal Medical Officer to the Railway, Dr. A. Stanley, Medical Officer of Health to the Municipal Council, Dr. H. C. Patrick, Dr. G. E. Goode, Dr. Millais 'ulpio, Messrs. H. P. Winslow, H. Middleton, W. J. Gray, A. C. Clear, R. Glerdenning, W. S. Andrews and other representatives, Chinese and foreign, of all the different Departments of the Railway.

Dr. Ziervogel said:—Gentlemen, the opening of this hospital affords a fitting opportunity to tell you something of the work and progress that is going on among the

sick on the railway, under the good offices of the Managing Director and the whole-hearted efforts of the Manager and the executive officers working under him. It may be within your recollection that at the beginning of last year there were three dispensaries along the line, at Shanghai, Soochow, and Chinkiang Stations, and the *modus operandi* was, that an employee requiring medical aid had to attend at one of these dispensaries, which were open for two hours a day for three days in the week. In the case of a patient being seriously ill and unable to travel, the Medical Officer of the district was called to attend him. Now, so far as the Railway Company was concerned this was satisfactory, inasmuch as it put an end to malingering, and a man was unable to obtain sick leave unless he had a certificate from one of the Medical Officers. From the point of view of the employees, however, the medical service was of little value, as it was quite impossible for the three Medical Officers along the two hundred miles of line to give the necessary care and attention to serious cases; cases which were rendered more desperate by the totally inadequate accommodation in such circumstances afforded by the gang-huts and houses on the railway. For instance, a patient at Quinsan could receive a daily visit from the doctor only if there were no cases at Woosung to attend to, and it will be readily understood, the almost insurmountable difficulties which presented themselves when the unhealthy season set in; and what was perhaps worse, the members of the Medical Department came to be looked upon as merely "agents," specially employed by the heads of the Executive to report on each and every man's capacity for work. The result of this was, that when a man became too ill to look after himself, he sought aid from various mission hospitals, and being then entirely under the control of the mission doctors was lost sight of by us until he presented himself for work again. Such a system was not desirable, as it meant that for every coolie who became a patient of the mission hospital the railway was accepting charity from that mission to the extent of one dollar a day. We had no record of such illnesses, and we had no means of ascertaining what the public health was, as it was the practice to go direct to hospital without reference to, or obtaining permission from the Medical Officers of the railway. The first change came when sanction was obtained to have the Executive Engineer's old offices at Chinkiang converted into a hospital. The General Manager authorized a donation of \$350 from the Fine Fund towards its equipment, and \$50 per month from the same fund as a contribution towards its maintenance. Such an allowance was, obviously, insufficient to run a hospital, but an arrangement was made whereby the establishment was handed over to the community at Chinkiang, the railway reserving the right to appoint the Medical Officer, and also to prior claim to the beds. The beneficial results of such a step to

Chinese and foreigners has been enormous. I cannot go as fully into this matter as I should like to, but I will mention that for the half-year ending December 31 the average number of attendances, Chinese and foreign, was nearly 800 per mensem. During the summer, three cases of cholera from British gunboats were admitted and all discharged cured. Any railway employee between Changchow and Nanking can obtain admission to this hospital if he is too ill to work. Between Changchow and Woosung, it may be said, we were, up to the present, dependent upon charity hospitals to look after our sick, except in the case of foreigners, who were sent to the General Hospital or Nursing Home. I am glad to say that our Managing Director and General Manager immediately gave their sanction to the establishment of this hospital when the real condition of affairs was brought to their notice. What you see here to-day is only a temporary hospital. We hope soon to have a larger and more suitable building erected which will give us ample accommodation for all our sick employees of whatever nationality. We want to go further and place our wards at the disposal of all the medical practitioners at Shanghai, as there appears to be great difficulty on their part in finding suitable hospital accommodation for private Chinese and Indian cases. The hospital will have wards for all classes, and will be conducted on the same lines as similar institutions at home. Now gentlemen, to the railway falls the credit of having started the hospital at Chinkiang, an urgent need supplied to the foreign community (in the midst of a disease-infected district) as well as to ourselves. Go there and see for yourselves the good you have done. It is a work that will remain as a memorial of your solicitude for the general welfare, and the exercise of a humanizing influence. A similar work you are starting in Shanghai, in an even wider field, and its organization and operation will involve heavy work and constant care. What is needed is the personal goodwill and co-operation of every member of the staff; given this, I am assured of success. It is not philanthropy, but utilitarianism in the highest sense, and I cannot but think the best interests of the Company will be served by such a scheme. We are already repaid in a large measure by the knowledge that it meets with the appreciation of those for whose welfare it is undertaken. Before concluding I specially wish to thank Mr. Pope, Mr. Clear, Mr. Dunstan and Mr. Gray for their very liberal personal assistance in starting this hospital. Mr. Pope has been untiring in his support in the hospital scheme, and in advancing the individual welfare and interests of employees working under him. (Applause.)

Taotai Chung Mun-yew asked Mr. Pope to speak next.

Mr. Pope said:—Your Excellency and gentlemen:—At the request of His Excellency the Managing Director, I shall do what otherwise I had no intention of doing, and that is, say a few words on

this occasion which, as they are quite extemporary, I must claim your forbearance for. What first drew official attention to the hospital question was the discovery in 1907 that 85 per cent, and sometimes more, of the men of the Traffic Department were absent from duty sick, some very slightly, some in pretence, but many seriously ill, oftentimes so ill as to evoke great sympathy in my mind for their sufferings. Our attitude was one of sympathetic inaction, and the men obtained medical treatment as best they could, as Dr. Ziervogel described, from charitable and other dispensaries, and often not at all. It was this state of affairs that made me apply to the then Board of Commissioners to import a Chief Medical Officer specially versed in tropical diseases, to take up the question of medical treatment on the line. Thus it was Dr. Ziervogel eventuated, and the confidence he has established in his skill, tact, and camaraderie with the men, has been the main foundation for the support which, under my advice, the Managing Director has kindly accorded to him in the establishment of first, the Chinkiang, and now this hospital in Shanghai, in which the railway does not seek to selfishly provide for its own wants, but to carry out its constant policy of attending in every way to every avenue of public health, education and amusement. At this point I will digress slightly to say that I am sure that it was pure inadvertence that made Dr. Ziervogel say that the Managing Director and the General Manager sanctioned these hospitals. I think it is necessary on this and all public occasions to say that the Managing Director alone is the sanctioning authority, and particularly the Chinese Managing Director. This railway built is a Chinese railway at their cost and risk to bring into their country all the advantages that follow the introduction of railways. Very rightly, therefore, all sanctions devolve on him, the General Manager simply being his adviser. I am very sincerely thankful that in the position of Managing Director is one who, besides being a great personal friend to me and mine, is a sympathetic, tender-hearted, able, and patriotic gentleman, and my position of adviser is one of combined honour and pleasure. I can therefore claim no more share in to-day's functions than that of the whole-hearted and sincere adviser. I have felt all my service that the care of the health of my fellow-workmen engaged in so arduous an undertaking as a railway was one of the first duties of the Administration (applause), and when last year I lay at death's door for a protracted period, it was borne very strongly on me how at the time of man's extremity efficient medical help and comfort was an untold blessing; and it was in order to take my little share in securing under God's providence the same sense of reliance, comfort and help I obtained from the efficient medical treatment of Dr. Ziervogel, to all who should be stricken down with disease on this railway, that I brought the question up to the

Managing Director. I shall always be deeply thankful that I have been in a position to do this, and in that spirit I ask your Excellency, Taotai Chung Mun-yew, as a personal friend of the officers and staff, foreign and Chinese, and as after that their Manager Director, to declare this Shanghai-Nanking Railway and District Hospital open for the glory of God, the greater comfort, help and medical treatment of all sufferers who have the good fortune to place themselves beneath its shelter. (Applause)

The Managing Director said:—I am not a ready speaker like the General Manager so I ask your permission to read my speech.

I take great pleasure in extending to you our sincere welcome on this occasion, the opening of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway and District Hospital. The very name of this hospital implies that it is not established solely for the staff. Its function is two-fold; while it provides for the care of the railway staff, it is also to assist the other hospitals in Shanghai in their benevolent work for the physical welfare of the community here. (Hear, hear.) Consequently, its operating room is available for the use of the public, and a few special wards are set apart for those residents in this city who may wish to come to this hospital for treatment. (Hear, hear.) In this we are trying, in a small way, to reciprocate the benefit which the railway derives from the support of the public in the development of traffic. Dr. Ziervogel, our Chief Medical Officer, and under whose charge this hospital is to carry on its work, is a physician of acknowledged skill and large experience. (Hear, hear.) It is through him that the co-operation of an honorary staff of prominent local physicians has been secured, who have kindly consented to give their time and services whenever needed. (Hear, hear.) With their help, and with the assistance of the railway medical staff, Dr. Ziervogel will be in the position to make this hospital a boon to the public, while serving the needs of the railway staff in their discharge of the duties required of them by the Railway Administration. My belief in its usefulness is confirmed by what has been and is being done by the Railway Hospital in Chinkiang, from which the residents there have received much benefit. (Hear, hear.) I wish also to take this opportunity to mention that the realization of the scheme for the establishment of this hospital is in no small degree due to the interest and initiative taken by Mr. Pope, our General Manager, in such good work as this, besides his regular work in connexion with the Railway. To him our thanks are due. (Hear, hear.) It is my sincere hope that what little we are trying with our slender means to do for the care and comfort of our employees and the general public may be crowned with success so that we may be encouraged to do more for them as the traffic of our railway develops, and it is with this hope that I take pleasure in declaring this hospital open. (Applause.)

The Managing Director then invited the company to drink, "Success to the

Hospital" and this was done. Cheers were given for the Managing Director, Dr. Ziervogel and the General Manager. Refreshments were handed round, and those who had not already done so inspected the hospital.

THE REPTILES OF CHINA.

LECTURE BY DR. STANLEY.

The announcement that Dr Arthur Stanley would lecture on the Reptiles of China attracted a very large audience to the hall of the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society in Museum Road on Friday evening. Sir Pelham L. Warren K. C. M. C., President of the Branch, presided. He said that Dr Stanley, the Honorary Curator of the Museum, had kindly undertaken to read a paper on a most interesting subject and one which he felt sure would afford his audience considerable information.

Dr. Stanley, in a few introductory remarks, pointed out that he desired to stimulate interest in the Society's museum. He first spoke of the connexion of snakes with the arts and literature, alluding to the dragon as a myth the origin of which it was difficult to trace although it bore a resemblance to that extinct reptile, the Pterodactyl; and to the dollar mark as the serpent entwined about the Pillar of Hercules. He defined reptiles as cold-blooded vertebrates, breathing by lungs throughout their existence, and having the body covered with scales and plates. It would appear, he said, that most of the orders of reptiles were now extinct, being found fossilized only; but the recent reptiles were divided into the order of the crocodiles, the order of the tortoises and the order of the lizards and snakes. The order of the crocodiles was represented in China by the Chinese alligator, which was the only non-American alligator and was first described by M. Fauvel in the "Journal" of the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society in 1879. Dr. Stanley drew attention to a very fine specimen he had on the table. It was, he said, a most interesting species, rarely more than six feet in length, found in the river Yangtze and of which there were specimens in the Museum. It was not a very blood-thirsty beast like most of the other members of the order, only in the heat of summer it was inclined to bite if molested, but it was never the first to attack. The Chinese alligator had been acclimatized in the Zoological Gardens in London and was considered quite a pet. It was interesting to note that there was an ancient picture of an alligator cut in stone on Silver Island, Chinkiang. The general features of tortoises and turtles, of which he showed some specimens from the Museum, were next described. Attention was drawn to the presence of the edible turtle on the China coast, the soft turtle in the rivers, and the common Chinese pond tortoise found practically everywhere where there are pools of water,

Dr. Stanley proceeded to deal with scaled reptiles, and remarked that they had not many specimens of lizards, the most numerous of reptiles, in the Museum. He said that snakes might be defined as lizards that had lost their legs. The common blind worm, however, was shown to be a legless lizard; but, possessing both eyelids and external ear openings, was a true lizard and not a snake, as the latter had no eyelids or external ear openings. A distinctive feature of the snakes was their capacity for swallowing extremely large objects, and to do this, the two halves of the lower jaw were connected by an elastic band capable of great stretching. The difference between a poisonous and a non-poisonous snake was mainly one of the teeth, poisonous snakes having poison fangs, either with a canal or grooved for the passage of the poison, which in the vipers were capable of erection.

A living specimen of a non-poisonous snake known as the Coluber Tsinurns, commonly found around Shanghai, was then exhibited, the lecturer demonstrating the delicate play of the snake's tongue and showing that it extended it without opening the mouth. He then produced a living specimen of the common poisonous snake of this part of China, the Ancistrodon Blomhoffii, and made it erect its poison fangs. The mouth and teeth of this snake were compared with those of the non-poisonous snake that had been shown earlier. Dr. Stanley thus exposed the fallacy of the belief that snakes stung with the tongue. The second snake having been returned to his jar, Dr. Stanley showed a fine clutch of serpent's eggs found near the Astor House Hotel and indicated the serpent to whom they belonged. The snakes in the Museum were then shown in the natural sequence of the genera and in accordance with a systematic index of species of reptiles found in China that he had prepared. The lecturer pointed out a live snake of considerable length that had been sent to him recently and which had been found near the Yangkingpang.

Dr. Stanley gave a summary of the work of Cantor, Swinhoe, Anderson, David, Möllendorff, Fauvel, Günther and Wall regarding the reptiles of China, wherein it was shown that two distinct faunas were indicated in the list of Chinese reptiles, one tropical in character, and the other showing the influence of the neighbourhood of the temperate region, the change from the tropical to the temperate fauna being very gradual; and that the reptiles of China were not distinguished by the presence of types strikingly different from those of the surrounding countries. Several species with an affinity to the North American or Japanese fauna were, however, added to this mixture of types of the Old World.

The lecturer concluded by saying that he hoped he had been able to stimulate an interest in the Museum and invited contributions of specimens from various parts of China so as to make the collection thoroughly representative of Chinese Natural history.

He was taking some specimens to the British Museum later, so that names might be given to them.

The President proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Dr. Stanley and this was carried by acclamation. Those who had not examined the specimens from the Museum prior to the lecture then did so.

THE CASE OF THE "MIN HSU PAO."

The following copies of the correspondence in this case have courteously been furnished us for publication. Further reference to the matter will be found under "Notes and Comments."

Shanghai, Nov. 23, 1909.

IN THE INTERNATIONAL MIXED COURT
—"MIN HSU PAO."

DEAR SIR,—We are instructed, with Mr. W. S. Fleming, for the defence in the charge made against the above newspaper. We should be glad to be furnished with copies of the articles upon which the charge is based.

We are, Sir,

Yours faithfully,
DRUMMOND, WHITE-COOPER
& PHILLIPS.

Y. MATSUOKA, Esq.,
H.I.J.M.'s Acting Consul-General
at Shanghai.

H. I. Japanese M.'s Consulate-
General,
Shanghai, Nov. 23, 1909.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of even date addressed to the Acting Consul General, I am directed to inform you that we are unable to comply with your request owing to the fact that this Consulate is not the plaintiff as you seem so to assume. Apropos, the Mixed Court will, I think, if you apply, furnish you with copies of the Articles you require.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) G. MIHO,
Vice-Consul.

Messrs. DRUMMOND, WHITE-COOPER
& PHILLIPS.

Translation of Letter to the Mixed Court.

We have been instructed to defend the "Min Hsu Pao" in the case brought against them at the request of the Japanese Authorities, to whom we applied for the articles on which the charges were based. In reply we were informed that the Japanese Consul-General was not the accuser, and that your honourable Court will probably furnish us with the articles in question.

We should be obliged if you could send them to enable us to conduct the defence.

(Sgd.) DRUMMOND, WHITE-COOPER
& PHILLIPS.

Translation of letter from the Mixed Court Magistrate.

I received your letter in regard to the case brought against the "Min Hsu Pao" by letter from the Japanese Consul-General and asking me to send the

articles on which the action is based, for your perusal.

In this case I received repeated instructions from H.E. the Taotai, which stated that he had received a letter from the Japanese Consul-General, who stated that the "Min Hsu Pao" recklessly invented rumours, and he ordered that the paper be closed forthwith, which order was complied with.

As to the articles on which the charge was made, they were not communicated to the Court and I have no knowledge of them. I have to ask that you will still apply for them from the Japanese Consulate.

With usual good wishes.

November, 29, 1909.

Shanghai, Dec. 30, 1909.

Sir,—The prosecution of a native paper, the "Min Hsu Pao" is to some extent within your cognisance, and as leading Counsel for the defence I venture to lay the following facts before you, on which it would appear to be necessary to have the review of the Consular Body of Shanghai.

The Editor was brought before the Mixed Court on November 19 last, charged with publishing articles calculated to disturb the good relations existing between the countries of Japan and China, when, without any evidence being adduced, an order was made by the Magistrate and the British Assessor for the sealing of the premises.

Subsequently the charge came before a Court consisting of the Magistrate, with the Japanese Vice-Consul and Assessor, when it having been officially stated that the Japanese Government were not prosecuting, an objection was made to the constitution of the Court.

The case was adjourned for the production to the defence of the articles complained of. On December 29 the Court again sat, with the Japanese Vice-Consul and Assessor on the Bench, when I again stated my objection to the Court as constituted, giving my grounds for such objection, and declining to proceed with the defence. The Court adjourned without comment.

My objection to the constitution of the Court is based on the following reasons.

The Japanese Government are not prosecuting, and it must be assumed that the prosecution is at the instance of the Chinese authorities, as it was upon the order of the Taotai that the newspaper offices were sealed.

This being so, I venture to submit that the long-established practice in such cases must be adhered to and that the case be heard by the Magistrate, sitting with one of the regular assessors for Police cases, i.e. the British, American and German, the active intervention of the Japanese assessor being altogether irregular.

I therefore respectfully request that my objection be upheld by the Consular Body and that the necessary steps be taken to reconstitute the Court for the hearing of the charge.

At the moment of writing the above, a copy of the judgement of the Court, dated 29th instant, has been sent to my office.

It is the judgement of the Court sitting with Japanese Consular Officials and suspends the "Min Hsu Pao" permanently. A judgement given without any hearing of the facts, and by a Court which I submit is irregularly constituted.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
(Signed) T. MORGAN PHILLIPS.
D. SIFFERT, Esq.,
Consul-General for Belgium
and Senior Consul.

H. M. Consulate-General,
Shanghai, Jan. 14, 1910.

Sir.—I have the honour to inform you that at a Meeting of the Consular Body held on the 11th instant your letter to the Senior Consul dated December 30th with regard to the hearing of the "Min Hsu Pao" case was carefully considered.

I have been requested by my Colleagues to acquaint you that, in the opinion of the Consular Body, if you are dissatisfied with the Judgment of the Court your right course would be to apply to the proper authorities for a rehearing of the case.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your obedient servant
(Sd.) PELHAM L. WARREN,
Consul-General.
T. MORGAN PHILLIPS, Esq.

Shanghai, Jan. 18, 1910.

Sir.—The permanent suspension of the "Min Hsu Pao" by an order of the Mixed Court made without the semblance of a trial is within the knowledge of the Council. I beg to enclose copies of correspondence in the matter which records the material facts. I may at once state that it is not my intention to accede to the suggestion of the Consular Body that an application for a rehearing might be made, inasmuch as it is a case in which there has been no hearing. I respectfully request the consideration of the Council on a matter which to me appears to be of serious import to the Settlement. A business has been closed summarily with a complete disregard of elementary principles of justice. There has been a grave interference with the liberty of Chinese residents which may well prove to be a dangerous precedent.

May I venture to remind the Council that the Chinese residents contribute by far the larger proportion of the revenue of the Settlement, and are fully entitled to ample protection from illegal and arbitrary action. I feel therefore justified in appealing for the support of the Council in this very serious matter.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
T. MORGAN PHILLIPS,

To the CHAIRMAN of the
Shanghai Municipal Council.
Copies of letters enclosed:
Letter to Japanese Consulate.
Reply from Japanese Vice-Consul.
Letter to Mixed Court Magistrate.
Reply from Mixed Court Magistrate.
Letter to Senior Consul.
Reply from Consular Body.

NOTE:—Mr. Morgan Phillips' letter was placed before the Shanghai Municipal Council on Wednesday the 19th instant. A reply has not yet been received.

CHINA IN 1742.

SOME UNPUBLISHED CORRESPONDENCE.
To the Editor of the

"NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS."

Sir,—When at home recently I came on some letters addressed by Commodore Anson to Lieutenant Philip Saumarez. They were written in 1742 and '3 from Canton, whither Anson had gone to make arrangements for the refitting of the Centurion, to his first lieutenant who remained in charge of the ship at Typa Cebada. It occurs to me that they may be of interest to your readers as giving an account of difficulties which are sometimes still experienced in China. I would also recommend a reading of those chapters in "Anson's voyage" which deal with this period of his expedition, and which are illustrated by the letters. I send you also a letter which is of general interest as showing the origin of the present naval uniform. Professor Laughton in a note on page 182 of "From Howard to Nelson" says "On the other hand it is certain that Captain Philip Saumarez had devised a uniform coat at least as early as August 1747, that this uniform coat was exactly that which was ordered in 1748." The letter is of interest as it is signed by Augustus (afterwards Viscount) Keppel.

Of the others mentioned, Captain Saunders was afterwards Admiral Sir Charles Saunders with Wolfe, the captor of Quebec. Michell and Brett were naval officers. Tassel an "agent victualler" and "Tom" presumably a younger brother of the first lieutenant who as well as Keppel had sailed as a midshipman.

"The Manila ship" was the Spanish galleon (I quote from "Anson's Voyage") laden with "1,313,843 pieces of eight, and 35,682 oz. of virgin silver, besides some cochineal, and a few other commodities, which, however, were of small account in comparison of the specie." Sailing from Acapulco to Manila she was taken by the "Centurion" in the ensuing summer with the loss of three lives after eighteen months cruising.

The number 1,313,843 appears erroneous as the booty is variously estimated at £300,000 to £400,000 and, as everybody knows, a gold piece of eight dollars was worth about £2. 15.

I have retained the spelling of the original letters as it is curious.

I am, etc.,

H. W. DE SAUSMAREZ.

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE.

MR. PHILLIP SAUMAREZ,
First Lieutenant of the
Centurion.

Sir,—I am still in as great a suspense about obtaining leave to hire a junk and purchase necessary for the refitting my ship as when I first arrived at Canton, they have put me off with

the promise of it the next day for these five days past. I find they are apprehensive that two small vessels that are expected from the Manila daily may fall into my hands, they are very valuable, therefore keep a good look out for them, they are either ships or snows, if anything in that shape appears send out the eighteen oared Boat well manned and armed, and if she takes them bring them to anchor near the Centurion, it is likely they will hoist Portuguese Colours and pretend they have their pass, but be sure to secure all the papers the first thing the officer doth; don't examine any junks, it may cause suspicion, and I would not have 'em have any grounds to suspect that we have any such design, the island on the larboard side as we came into the Tippa Cabrada seems to be a good to one look out for them, you can send a man every morning to look out there or at any more convenient place but take him off in the evening. Of all the places I was ever in this is the most disagreeable I can't obtain leave of the Hoppo man for a white man to go down to the ship nor to go down to the Ships at Wampo, which is the reason Mr. Rule writes to you for the Dates out of the Logg Book and Coppy's of some thing out of the Letter Book, and as a Sweed Ship sails in a week for Europe, and will arrive some months before our India Ships I am obliged to write by her, you will see me soon.

I am,
Your obliged servant,
G. ANSON.

November, 24.

TO MR. PHILLIP SAUMAREZ
First Lieutenant of His Majesty's
Ship Centurion.

Sir,—I have prevailed with Captain Townsend to spare me his Boatswain, who by all accounts is as good a man, and as good a Boatswain as any that ever was in the India Service, he has been with Captain Michell who gives him the same Character, he was appointed a Boatswain at the Admiralty but was out of the way; I have got a Longboat which will forward us much, she brings all the stores we can get here from the Ships, but for Cordage we can be supplied with much better here; Captain Michell will be down soon; you must let the Boatswain come up again in the Longboat with one of the Mates and six men with their provision; I have not yet been able to get the letter of licence for what I want but expect it to-morrow, and shall then write more particularly to you.

Yours
G. ANSON.

November Ye 28.

I would have you let Mr. Tapell take all his cloth out of the ship and the Collonel.

Receiv'd ye 1st December.

MR. PHILLIP SAUMAREZ
First Lieutenant of His Majesty's
Ship the Centurion at Tippa
Cebada.

Sir,—I find no great progress has been made in our grand Chop which is

to grant us all we want, for it is not yet obtained, but is still promised in a day or two; I have used all the power I had with the Commanders of the India Ships to exchange such of the Gloucester and Tryalls officers as have an inclination to go to me, (for able seamen,) but they put me off with excuses, if they think their instance will add any weight to what I have already said you may give them leave to come up and try, let the Boatswain of the Tryall come in the Long boat; I have bespoke several of the Stores and as it will be some advantage to the Captors to let the Government have part of the Money taken from the Spaniards, I shall employ what may be wanting for that service out of the Prise Money; Send Mr. Brett up with a thousand dollars, let it be counted publicly and put down in the Logbook. Captain Michell and Captain Saunders want a thousand dollars or more, which you will deliver to them taking a receipt and promissary note for the same, I received your letter with all the dates and memorandum I wanted, you may strike the Fourtopmast and repair the trussell trees, let Mr. Tapell and the Collonel take their things out of the Ship; you must make the best shift you can to dress the provisions till the damage can be repaired that is done to the furnaces, but nothing can be supplied from this place till the Chop is obtained when that is granted you will see me soon.

I am
Yours
G. ANSON.

November ye 30th.

TO MR. PHILLIP SAUMAREZ,
First Lieutenant of His Majesty's
Ship the Centurion Tippa
Cebada.

Sir,—I have sent you inclosed the demand for what stores etc we want the articles are in the Chinese characters. You are immediately to carry it to the Portuguese Governour, make my compliments to his Excellency and desire him to send it to the Hoppo man by the same Person that procured the Chop for my coming up, this is the method they inform me must be taken, though I believe they are only amusing me, to gain time, for the fear of the Manilla Ship's being taken is the Occasion of all these delay's, inform your self of the time that the Chop will be sent to the Hoppo man here and send me word by Captain Michell or Mr. Walter to whom I would have you give leave to come up to Canton as the inclosed letter to him mentions if Captain Michell can any way procure a Chop to return hither it will be better than coming up in my Boat, if it can't be done I would not have him detained there, if the Manilla Ship should luckily fall into your hands, send the Boat well manned and armed with an officer up to me.

I am
Yours
G. ANSON.

December ye 1st.

To Mr. PHILLIP SAUMAREZ,

First Lieutenant of his Majesty's
Ship the Centurion. Typa.

SIR,—I would have the Long Boat dispatched hither again as soon as she is cleared, if Mr. Walter and the Boat-swain Gunner Purser Carpenter of the Gloucester have a mind to come up and try if they can get exchanged let them come up in the Boat. I believe if they had come this trip as I mentioned in a former letter, it would have been done, I would have an officer come up in the Boat the next trip and Bring up a Thousand Dollars let it be divided in small parcels of two hundred and, and distributed among the men, let any of the Lieutenants of the Gloucester come up that have an inclination; I wait with impatience to receive the chop I sent you down.

I am Yours

G. ANSON.

Pray make my compliments to Captain Michell and the Gentlemen on board. I hope Tom takes good care of 'em tell him to send me the Bitts of cloath and stuffs for wastcoats.

Let Captain Michell's servast go with him to take care of his things but if 'Captain Townsend doth not give me a man in lien he must return.

December ye 6th.

To Mr. PHILLIP SAUMARIES.

First Lieutenant of his Majesty's
ship Centurion Canton.

SIR,—I have agreed here for the performing ye carpenters and caulkers work in refitting the ship for two thousand dollars, but don't care to sett them to work before I am Certain of the Jonks if you cannot procure two jonks you are to hire One, of three or four hundred tons to heave us down by, we having an Opportunity here of being Supplied with small vesseles of Sixty Tons.

I have wrote to Mr. Lisle to procure one hundred Pickle of oyle and fifty Pickle of cacham which they call here Stonade Bamboas which youl send down by the jonks.

I am

Your very humble servant
G. ANSON.

Centurion,

January 6th, 1742.

As soon as you have procured the jonks you'll send me an Answer immediately by this Boat which you are to Detain.

MR. SAUMARIES.

To Captain SAUMAREZ.

My DEAR SIR,—I received the pleasure of yours Just as My Lord Anson was talking of you and said that he had received a Letter from you which he should answer but in the meantime desired me to make some excuse to you for him which I readily undertook; he at present has the trouble of the Navy on him and has not time to turn about him as their are many days that they can't make aboard, so pray be easy till you hear from him Your letter is so extremely polite that I don't know how to answer it but still write to keep up our Intimacy which I assure you gives me great pleasure. Jim Brett

tells me you have made a uniform coat, etc., of your own My Lord Anson who is desirous that many of us should make coats after our own taste and then a choice to be made of one to be general and if you'll appear in it here he says he will be answerable your Taste will not be among the Worst.

We reason Variously on the Subject of Bergen Opsoon the place still defends itself Bravely and the French does not get an Inch of ground but what they undermine; but still I fear it cant hold out above a week or ten days longer, I wish I may judge wrong, only think what Alarms we shall have and how much our Cruising will be Interrupted if any more Invasions are trump up which they will be in the Winter so that their Martinico ships may pass safe without the English molesting of them; I pity your situation at Plymouth but you'll soon be at sea I suppose; you have a strange sett of Captains surely at Plymouth they are people I hardly ever heard of before. I hope soon to be with men who will be the thing I want and from the finest man'd ship in the Service perhaps shall have the worst tho' I am told that I shall have my own people but to expect them all to come will be extraordinary. Cheap and Sanders who are now with me desire their compliments dinner waits so must beg to conclude with assuring you that I am with the

greatest truth yours

A. KEPPEL.

London August ye 20th, 1747.

NEW ORDER IN COUNCIL.

The following order in Council is published, and will come into effect on February 25, 1910:—

1.—This order may be cited as "The China and Corea (Amendment) Order in Council, 1909," and shall be read as one with "The China and Corea Order in Council, 1904" hereinafter referred to as the "Principal Order."

2.—In place of that contained in Article 5 of "The China and Corea (Amendment) Order in Council, 1907," the following Article shall take effect instead of Article 75 of the principal order:—

(1) Every person subject to the criminal jurisdiction of the Court who prints, publishes, or offers for sale any printed or written newspaper or other publication containing seditious matter shall be guilty of a grave offence against the Principal Order, and may, in addition to, or in lieu of, any other punishment, be ordered either to give security for good behaviour or to be deported:

(2) Where any printed or written newspaper or other publication containing seditious matter is printed, published, or offered for sale within the limits of the Principal Order by a company registered in the United Kingdom or in a British possession, the Court may, after notice to the company, and on proof of the facts, require the company to give security to abstain from such

printing, publishing, or offering for sale in future. If the company fail to give security, or if the company is shown to have again printed, published, or offered for sale such newspaper or other publication containing seditious matter after giving such security, the Court may make an order prohibiting the company from carrying on business within the limits of the Order, or may make such other orders as to the Court may seem just. The Court may also declare all the property of the company within the limits of the Order to be forfeited to His Majesty, the King, and shall dispose of it, subject to any general or special directions of the Secretary of State, as it thinks fit:

(3) Matter calculated to excite tumult or disorder, or to to excite enmity between His Majesty's subjects and the Government of China or the Government of Corea, or the authorities or subjects of any Power in amity with His Majesty, being within the limits of this Order, or between the Government of China and its subjects or the Government of Corea and its subjects, shall be deemed to be seditious matter within the meaning of this Article:

(4) An offence against this Article shall not be tried except on a charge and by the Supreme Court:

(5) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Principal Order, the charge may, for reasons to be recorded on the minutes, be heard and determined before a Judge sitting without a jury or assessors.

3. (1) The powers of His Majesty's Minister in China to make King's Regulations under Article 155 of the Principal Order, or to join with the Ministers of any foreign Powers in amity with His Majesty in making or adopting municipal Regulations under Article 156 of the Principal Order shall extend to making, or joining in making or adopting regulations for the creation maintenance, discipline and control of a police force for any foreign Concession or Settlement in China.

(2) Such Regulations may provide for the dismissal, fine (not exceeding one month's pay), confinement to barracks, reduction in rank, class, or seniority, suspension or removal from special duty, of any member of the force by the person for the time being in command thereof.

(3) The Minister may also issue to such person a warrant empowering him while in command of the force to inflict summary punishment upon members of the force by imprisonment with hard labour for a period not exceeding fifteen days. Such warrant may be at any time withdrawn.

(4) Any fine inflicted under this Article shall be paid, after deduction of the costs incurred in the imposition or recovery thereof, to the authority by whom the police force is paid.

(5) Article 5 of "The China and Corea (Amendment) Order in Council, 1907," is hereby repealed, but this repeal shall not (a) affect the past operation of such Article, or any right, title, obligation, or liability thereunder, or (b) interfere with the institution or

prosecution of any legal proceeding thereunder.

And the Right Honourable Sir Edward Grey, Baronet, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, is to give the necessary directions herein.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

The Chinese—by John Stuart Thomson. Indianapolis, The Bobbs-Merrill Company.

The writer of this book was undoubtedly animated by the desire to give his readers a good general idea of the Chinese, and he has crowded into over four hundred pages a tremendous amount of information with regard to this people and their country. His style is free rather than literary; he relates one interesting feature after another without regard to sequence. As a work of reference the book would therefore be of little value were it not well indexed; and obviously it is not intended as an aid to the serious student of things Chinese. To the Occidental reader who desires to become acquainted in a general way with this kingdom and the customs, politics, business methods, religions of the Chinese, etc., the work may be an acquisition, and no doubt thus achieves the end the author had in view. Unfortunately, however, Mr. Thomson does not deal with the Chinese in the way in which we should expect in such a book; he has evidently a wide experience of the peoples of the southern provinces and not of those of central and northern China, and as a result the characteristics that are most familiar to foreigners residing in these parts of the Empire are relegated, perhaps unconsciously, to the background.

It is somewhat surprising to find in a book entitled "The Chinese" that the first ninety-six pages are devoted to matters incident to foreign residence in Hongkong and Macao. So much space is devoted to this side of life in China, that Shanghai, Tientsin and other foreign settlements may rightfully lay claim to more than incidental reference to them. The first chapter, "Daily Life of Foreigners in China", is really a series of sketches of Hongkong life as it appeared to the writer; but the real life of the foreigner is not touched upon. Inaccuracies of detail are abundant. For instance, riding boys do know the correct way to mount a pony; walers, Arabs and American horses are not now raced at the Hongkong races; and it is a gross exaggeration to say that "The anemic European ladies do what the Chinese women do, and paint their weather-melted faces." The aspersions cast on the Hongkong Jockey Club with regard to their attitude towards certain residents, is, in our experience, quite unjustified and is calculated to create an erroneous impression in the mind of the reader who does not know the facts. That "East is East and West is West" every one is well aware, but no good object is served by besmirching a Colony's

name at the slightest provocation. There is such a thing as advertising the under-world. It is also stated that the children of white parents in the treaty ports of the Orient "have only one-tenth of a chance for life"!

The Portuguese and Camoens in China are the subject of a historical sketch, and Canton and West River scenes are dealt with fully, showing that the author has had more than a passing acquaintance with them. Much space is devoted to incidents of daily life, and we are given much information. We are told that Dr. Deminil was charged with killing a soldier who was resisting his entrance without passports into Tibet at Batang. Judge Wilfley found that he accidentally shot a Tibetan he had not seen! All the Chinese emigrants to America, the author says, come from six clans, but we believe he will find more than six surnames among them. Doesn't he mean six tang or tong?

In dealing with the Law Courts of China sweeping changes are proposed. That China needs such changes in the procedure of her Criminal Courts is patent to all, but radical changes are dangerous and we doubt the Empire's readiness for the adoption of the jury system. The longer service of judges, the appointment of prosecuting attorneys and the registration of barristers may come, but the whole system of China's administration of justice is so surrounded by corruption that one may be forgiven for becoming pessimistic. With reference to the sense of humour of the Chinese we are told that "the stoical Chinese laughs not at all, before or after, but next day in sincerest flattery, in his wide charity, he will pass your story along, and he and his will trust you for evermore, because for a moment you have lightened the load of care of a fellow mortal." The Chinese are a phlegmatic people, they do not see a joke readily, especially when it is put from a Western point of view, but they do laugh heartily at genuine humour, and instances could be recounted in which savage mobs were turned aside from violence by an appeal to the sense of humour of the people.

Mr. Thomson, in the chapter entitled "China, political and picturesque," gives us some scrappy sketches of China's rulers and a few of her great men. The criticism of these men, their methods and work depends on the viewpoint of the critic. Whatever may be said of China's chafing at the continuance of extraterritoriality there can be no question, even on the facts disclosed by Mr. Thomson himself, that she has made no showing that she is fitted to assume charge of the welfare of foreigners resident in this Empire. It is unfortunate that the author of a book published at the present time should make such a statement as "the Ministry is stronger and more enlightened than it ever was," but he dogmatizes frequently and this is only one of many statements that might be challenged if space allowed consideration of the political condition of China. A treatise on the Art and Literature of the

country is followed by a chapter on modern commerce and business. The present and prospective systems of railways are carefully explained and also their advantages, but in most cases the railways are not being laid so cheaply or well as one would think from the narrative. The tramways of Hongkong and Manila are mentioned and the reader is left to infer that there is no tramway in China. It is rather astonishing to read that "the Opium Conference of the nations called by America in Shanghai in 1909 was a failure owing to Hongkong's and India's fear of loss of revenue. . . We shall have other Conferences and America will call them until Britain keeps her word." Surely this was intended solely for home consumption! It certainly does not display impartial consideration of the subject. We are told that the position that Japan has taken up on the Yangtze will lead to the annulment of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance if anything ever leads to such a step being taken. No new light is thrown on the question of Japan's commercial example to China or on her position in the Orient, although advice is given to America. There are other chapters dealing with the climate and diseases of South China, religion and superstition and the history of the Empire. Two excellent maps are set in the book and a number of illustrations.

HALLEY'S COMET.

The following letter from the Rev. D. MacGillivray, of the editorial staff of the Christian Literature Society for China, on the subject of the approaching reappearance of Halley's Comet is of special interest, and it is to be hoped that the poster referred to will obtain a ready circulation at least in all treaty ports.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—As we see from the telegrams in your columns from time to time, Halley's Comet is rapidly approaching the area within which it will be visible to human ken. Its periodicity being well known to be 74 or 75 years, there are few now living who ever saw it before, and astronomers tell us that it will probably be the most magnificent celestial phenomenon vouchsafed to the present generation. If the news from Mexico be correct, it will be brilliant enough to remain visible even during the day.

It is not so long ago since a sight like this would have carried consternation through even Western countries, and it needs, therefore, little imagination to foretell its probable effect upon superstitious and ignorant Chinese. During a recent visit to the interior, a more passing reference to the coming of the Comet brought even officials to their feet with eager questions as to when and where, and how. Those among us most able to judge fear that the turbulent elements among the students and populace may interpret

the Comet's appearance as a sign of dynastic change. At any rate, revolutionaries and designing persons will for their own ends, stir up the fears of the people. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance that foreigners should one and all help to disseminate general information in regard to the phenomenon.

The Christian Literature Society, foreseeing the stir the Comet would make in China, has just issued an attractive poster on comets in general and this Comet in particular (with incidental references to eclipses also). It has upon it, in addition to the letter-press, (1) a large picture of Halley's Comet from a telescopic drawing on its last appearance in 1836, (2) a picture of the Comet from the celebrated Bayeux tapestry of 1066, (3) a diagram of the Comet's orbit as compared with planetary orbits. The work has been done by Mr. W. A. Cornaby, who had already written up all the facts concerning the Comet in the "Ti Tung Pao," the Society's Weekly, last October. 35,000 copies have been issued. It has been reprinted in the Shanghai "Eastern Times" and "Universal Gazette." Dr. Richard forwarded a copy with covering letter to the Waiwupu. Copies have also been sent to the Educational Bureaux of all the provinces, and to the editors of all the Chinese papers in China, and the Society is doing all it can to be beforehand with disturbers of the peace. Disturbances would be damaging to the interests of all classes in China.

It is obviously to the interests of merchants as well as missionaries that the tract about the Comet should be early and fully spread abroad. Hence, steamer companies are already posting it up in their steamers, an example which merchants would do well to follow by distributing it amongst their clients.

The Christian Literature Society offers the poster at cost price to everybody, namely, 80 cents per hundred, in Mandarin or Wenli. Its universal circulation at this juncture will be conferring a distinct boom on the Empire, and all who dwell in it.

I am etc.,

D. MCGILLIVRAY.

January 25.

THE CULT OF ROLLER SKATING.

Roller skating threatens to become as popular in Shanghai as in Great Britain and other places where the cult has long found high favour. Although Shanghai already has one rink it has been decided that more accommodation is required and as a consequence a small syndicate has been formed, which designs to construct a large, up-to-date rink. Temporary premises have been secured in Bubbling Well Road (Chang Su-ho Gardens), which will be used pending the erection of a larger building. The Municipal Council has granted the syndicate permission to use this building, which will be thoroughly remodelled and decorated throughout,

until the permanent structure has been completed.

It is claimed that the temporary building, which will be opened, probably a month hence, will be spacious and comfortable. The main building is 270 ft. long by 105 ft. wide, over all. Access from Bubbling Well Road will be gained along a wide carriage-drive. The main entrance will consist of a corridor 10 ft. wide, which will lead into the foyer, 80 ft. long by 15 ft. wide. Off the corridor will be situated the managers' office and the ticket offices; retiring rooms, a tea-room, a buffet and a grill-room. The skate-room will also be in the vicinity, and will have two delivery windows of ample proportions, so that several can be served at the same time.

The floor will be 200 ft. long by 80 ft. wide, with a 15 ft. racing track of ten laps to the mile. It will be of seasoned Singapore hardwood, and should withstand for many seasons the wear and tear to which, it is anticipated, it will be subjected. On one side of the rink will be the spectators' gallery, the size of which will be 145 ft. long and 25 ft. deep. The gallery, as well as the other portions of the building not set apart for skating, will be warmed by a number of gas stoves. The band stand will be opposite the gallery. The skaters will be supplied with Renshaw's adjustable ball-bearing skates, a large consignment of which has already been received from the makers in England. The rink will be under the personal supervision of two foreign managers, both of whom have gained extensive experience in this connexion in England, India and Australia.

It may be mentioned that as soon as the temporary building has been re-modelled, the contractors will begin to erect the permanent edifice. This will be built around the temporary building, and on completion will absorb the present structure. The new building will, consequently, be much larger, and all the improvements that experience shows to be necessary, will be incorporated.

It is anticipated that the rink will be ready towards the end of next month. The permanent offices of the syndicate will be advertised in our columns later on, together with the probable opening date.

THE AUSTRALIAN COAL STRIKE.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Sydney, Dec. 24.

A GREAT DISASTER.

The great coal strike is still going on, though it shows signs of having nearly run its course. Affairs in Sydney have reached a critical state. Many trains, trams and steamers have been compelled to cease running owing to the scarcity of coal. Several leaders of the strikers have been arrested, amongst whom Peter Bowling, President of the Northern Miners' Federa-

tion, Andrew Gray, Secretary of the Strike Congress, and Arthur Burns, Treasurer of the Strike Congress, are the most conspicuous. Unfortunately, the men in their present mood look upon arrested comrades as heroes. Coal must be obtained somehow and the Government is intending to work the mines with free labour, guaranteeing ample protection to the non-union labours. Coal is one of the most important natural productions of Australia. Up to the end of 1908, £80,000,000 worth of coal was taken from three New South Wales mines alone; during the same year nearly 2,000 vessels were engaged in the Newcastle coal trade, whilst about 18,000 miners are at work throughout the premier State. Nearly 40,000 able-bodied workmen have been thrown out of employment through the strike, and unless it is soon brought to an end this number will be added to very materially.

The history of the strike has proved very clearly the powerlessness of the Arbitration Court or the Industrial Act. People believed that under their protection strikes would be practically out of the question and industrial disputes would be amicably settled; whereas to-day we are in the throes of one of the most determined and disastrous strikes that have stained the pages of the industrial history of Australia. To lay all the blame at the door of the mine-owners is as reasonable as to lay it at the feet of the miners. Each side has real grievances, but they are of such a nature as to allow of their being settled without much difficulty, provided each side would show a spirit of mutual sympathy and forbearance.

LORD KITCHENER IN AUSTRALIA.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Sydney, Dec. 24.

PROGRAMME OF THE VISIT.

Lord Kitchener is expected to reach Port Darwin about the middle of this month and to embark at that Port on the special cruiser "Encounter" which is being sent to meet and bring him down to Brisbane. He inspects Port Darwin, Thursday Island, Townsville and then goes on to Brisbane where he is expected to disembark about January 2. Major-General Head and Colonel Kirkpatrick have gone to Port Darwin to meet him with the intention of escorting him down.

Great preparations are being made to give him as full an opportunity as possible of seeing the military forces of Australia. Camps are being formed in each State at one centre. It is estimated that 7,835 men will assemble in New South Wales, 2,888 in Victoria, 2,588 in Queensland, 1,898 in South Australia, 1,545 in Western Australia, and 1,148 in Tasmania. Everyone is hoping that the coal strike will be over before Lord Kitchener arrives so that his movements and those of the troops may be unhampered.

OUTPORTS, ETC.

TIENTSIN.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Jan. 14.

THE TIENTSEN-PUKOU RAILWAY.

We are glad to report at last that work has been going forward for some time on the northern end of the Pukou-Tientsin Railway line. Connecting with the main line, a temporary track has been laid from a point up the Grand Canal to the jetty on the river bank below the German concession, and a few days ago a train went through from there to T'sangbo about fifty miles up the canal. This is, of course, for construction purposes, and the embankment is imperfect; but for direct communication with the steamers, it seems likely to become a permanent switch. It is now definitely said by Chinese who ought to know, that the main line will cross the canal somewhere near Yangliuching, and come direct to Hsiku, the northern suburb of the city, where it will cross the Peiho, and join the Peking-Tientsin line at the city station. It is said that work on this section from Yangliuching to the city station will begin as soon as the frost gives way in the spring. Land has increased in value very much since this road became a probability at this point; now that it is a certainty prices are going up rapidly, and doubtless there will be a great increase in the population soon in this northern suburb.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The first real snow of the season began in the night, but while it came down quite thick and fast for a time during the day, later the appearance is that it has about spent its force. The people are longing for a good snowfall for general health reasons and to prepare the land for spring planting.

Things are very quiet in and about the city. Police quarters are being built all about the city and suburbs, the police are everywhere in evidence, and at night they have a gun slung over their shoulders.

JAPAN.

COUNT KOMURA'S SPEECH.

We are indebted to the Japanese Consul-General for the following report of the speech of the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs delivered in the House of Representatives at Tokio yesterday. Count Komura said:—

In the previous session of the Diet I had the honour to lay before you a general outline of the foreign policy of this Empire. Ever since then the Government has shaped its course in accordance with the policy then indicated. It will be a source of profound gratification to you, as it has been to me, to note that the relations between this Empire and other Powers are ever growing in cordiality and friendship.

Our alliance with Great Britain in particular is in the most satisfactory condition to contribute toward the maintenance of peace in the Orient, while friendly ties between the allied people are constantly gaining additional strength and solidity. The Anglo-Japanese Exhibition to be held at London this year is a manifestation of the sentiment of good understanding that unites the two Empires and the preparations for the event are now making steady progress under the enthusiastic support of officials and people of both countries. There is no room for doubting that the Exhibition will be largely instrumental in developing the trade and consolidating friendship between the two nations.

With regard to our relations with Russia it seems that they have been in some respect looked upon with a feeling of suspicion and have occasionally given rise to groundless rumour. I assure you with perfect frankness and sincerity that the bonds of amity and good neighbourliness between the two countries are being constantly strengthened and that there are in the relations of the two Powers absolutely no cause for apprehension or concern. Moreover, both Governments are actually dealing in a spirit of mutual accommodation with the questions which arise from time to time for adjustment between themselves. That policy will, I am sure, be firmly maintained in future and I confidently look forward to the farther consolidation of those cordial relations which are entirely favourable. The Imperial Government fully appreciates the fact that both countries hold fast to the letter and spirit of the existing arrangements between them and are always actuated by a sense of mutual trust and confidence. Germany continues to observe a just and friendly attitude towards this country and the Imperial Government is highly satisfied to find that the policy of Germany in the East in no wise conflicts with that of Japan.

Friendship between Japan and the United States of America is of a traditional character and stands on a firm and enduring foundation. Its consolidation is essential in the best interest of the commercial relations of the two countries and, accordingly, both Governments are directing their best efforts to attain the object in view. It will be remembered that the last year afforded many opportunities for cultivating good feeling of mutual regard between the peoples of Japan and America. Our Training Squadron made a cruise along the Pacific coast of the United States, a member of the Imperial family by special Imperial order attended the Hudson-Fulton celebration held in New York, the Idzumo assisted at the Portola festivals of San Francisco, and finally a body of our business men at the invitation of American Chambers of Commerce made a visit to the United States calling at more than fifty cities in that country. The enthusiastic reception accorded to the member of the Imperial family both by the officials and people of America

and the magnificent welcome everywhere extended to our men-of-war and business men bear striking testimony to the sentiments of traditional friendship entertained by the American people towards this country and are consequently to us a source of profound satisfaction. An exchange of courtesies such as those I have recorded cannot fail to exercise a powerful influence in the promotion of cordial relations between the two nations.

To turn to our relations with China, these involve important and far-reaching consequences both politically and economically and I need hardly emphasize to you the necessity for both countries to cultivate and strengthen their sentiments of good understanding. The Imperial Government, having in view the general situation and attaching the highest importance to the maintenance of relations of good neighbourliness, has recognized the urgent need of adjusting all the long pending questions between the two countries. It has consequently made sincere efforts in a spirit of conciliation to bring about a settlement of those problems. The Chinese Government in appreciation of the situation manifested the same desire and the intentions of the two Governments having been brought to accord, the most important of the outstanding issues were in their entirety successfully adjusted in the course of September last. There are still pending some questions of minor importance, but as long as both countries adopt a conciliatory spirit there will not be much difficulty in finding satisfactory solutions. It is my sincere hope that the Chinese authorities in view of these considerations will also exert themselves to promote friendly relations between the two countries and to assure general repose and stability in the Orient. The policy of this Empire in Manchuria, as in other parts of China, is directed towards the maintenance of the principle of open door and equal opportunity. The Imperial Government has always held and will invariably adhere in future firmly and loyally to that policy. Consistently with that fixed policy the Imperial Government has decided to open Port Arthur in order to contribute to the development of Manchuria and to facilitate the commerce of all nations. It is confidently hoped that this immutable policy of the Imperial Government will carry with it the recognition of other Powers.

The United States lately proposed a scheme regarding the neutralization of railways in Manchuria. The Imperial Government in view of the important Japanese interests involved in the project and considering that the proposal has come from a friendly Power with which the Empire has been in relations of close intimacy, submitted the question to most careful consideration. While the Imperial Government is determined to adhere to its avowed policy scrupulously to uphold the principle of the open door and equal opportunity in Manchuria, it should be observed that the proposed plan would bring about radical changes in the condition of things in Manchuria as

established by the treaties of Portsmouth and Peking, and it would thus be attended with serious consequences. Moreover in the region tapped by South Manchuria Railway, there have grown up numerous undertakings which have been promoted in the belief that the railway would remain in our possession and the Imperial Government could not with a due sense of its responsibilities agree to abandon the railway in question. Consequently the Imperial Government to its regret felt bound to inform the United States Government on the 21st instant of their inability to consent to the proposal. We trust that the United States Government will appreciate our position and that other Powers will equally recognize the justice of our attitude in the matter.

Our relations with Italy, Austria-Hungary and other Treaty Powers are, I am happy to say, in an eminently satisfactory condition. Nothing calling for remark has occurred to disturb the harmonious course of good correspondence.

Finally as regards the question of treaty revision I had occasion in the previous session of the Diet to give a general outline of the policy of the Government. Since then the Government has lost no time in making preparations for the opening of negotiations. It is the intention of the Government to conclude treaties based entirely upon the principle of reciprocity, eliminating from future compacts all unequal engagements which appear in the present treaties, such as the unilateral conventional tariff. The clause relating to the privilege of coasting trade given to foreign vessels and the provision requiring amendments to the statutory tariff shall be promulgated six months before they become operative. In reference to the import duty it is intended that in principle a statutory tariff shall be applied and that only in special cases shall a conventional tariff be arranged and then on the basis of reciprocity. Taking into consideration the conditions of our industries in consonance with the policy thus indicated the Government will endeavour to complete the various preparations with all possible speed and upon the completion of such preparations it will approach the various Powers at the proper moment with a view to enter into negotiation for the conclusion of new treaties.

LONDON.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Dec. 29.

DRURY LANE PANTOMIME.

Even the severely critical dramatic critic of "The Times" acknowledges that this year the "Drury Lane pantomime is better than ever." It went off on Boxing night absolutely without a hitch, and the audience were able to get to their homes hardly later than after an ordinary theatre performance, whereas it has often been midnight before the curtain fell on Boxing night and even then sometimes the final

scenes have had to be omitted. The new "Aladdin" is at least as gorgeous and as beautiful in its scenic effects and costumes as any of its predecessors; and the play itself, in which Sir Frank Burdand has co-operated with Mr. Hickory Wood and Mr. Arthur Collins, is as laughter-provoking and in every way as entertaining as any Drury Lane pantomime that one can remember. The fun is principally sustained by Wilkie Bard as the Widow Twankey and George Graves as the magician; and as usual they rely much more on their own humorous invention or recollection than on the words of the authors. Mr. Graves in particular has a remarkable gift of mirthful improvisation. Miss Marie George who has previously appeared as "principal girl" becomes a "boy" this year and plays Aladdin; and Mr. George Ali the wonderful impersonator of animals is "Bolo, the dog." The pantomime was rapturously received, and will undoubtedly draw crowded houses until the end of the season, when the variety stage will call its principal performers back.

CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENTS.

As for the rest of the pantomimes and fairy plays for children, they are more numerous in London and the suburbs than they have been for several years, though, of course, fewer than some ten years ago before so many of the suburban theatres were turned into music halls. In addition to Old Drury two of the West End theatres have pantomimes—the Lyceum where the subject is also Aladdin and where "popular prices" will assist the management to compete with the more elaborate and expensive production at the neighbouring house, and the Strand (till recently known as the Waldorf) where "Cinderella" is played—except for the harlequinade—entirely by children. How all the music of this production was written in a single night by the child composer Moritz Lutzen has been recorded with many metaphorical notes of admiration in nearly every newspaper in the Kingdom; and there, in the conductor's chair, last night was little Moritz, of course in a suit of velvet with a broad white collar. The music is tuneful and pleasing and young Lutzen is certainly very clever, while little Miss Mary Glynn, who appears as Cinderella is a charming little actress. But the booming of infant phenomena has been much overdone of late; nor can it be said the rest of the child company distinguish themselves very greatly; but it is as true now as in Shakespeare's day that "an army of children" will attract many who care little about the "common stage."

A BOOM IN TRADE.

For tradesmen as well as amusement caterers it has been and is proving a booming Christmas. "The Times"—always scrupulously impartial in these matters—publishes in a prominent position this morning a brief letter from Sir Israel Hart, who refers to the last financial supplement of the leading journal as evidence that "in most departments our industries are flourishing" and advises Liberal candidates to

make use of this information to rebut the contention of their opponents that Free Trade is ruining us; and the evidence of the shop-keepers is no less conclusive as to the passing of the "slump." The trade in Christmas presents has been quite unexampled; and the boom has affected alike the cheap goods and the dear, showing that all classes are benefiting by the revival. The sale of costly furs has, I learn, been extraordinary; the carriers have been working day and night; and the parcel post men will no doubt have a similar tale to tell. It seems clear, therefore, that however much money has been driven out of the country by Mr. Lloyd-George's Budget there is still some left in it to spend.

THE COMING ELECTIONS.

This boom in trade must be helpful to the Liberal party in their election campaign; and the Unionist organizers—in London at all events—are evidently more anxious or less sanguine than they were a fortnight ago when the fight in the constituencies was just beginning. There are strong complaints of the action of the Government in altering the date which had been provisionally fixed for the dissolution of Parliament. Instead of Saturday January 8, it is to be Monday, January 10. The official explanation of the change is that it would be better to follow, in all respects, the precedent of 1906, when Parliament was dissolved on the second Monday in January; but the Unionists contend, and there is no doubt a good deal in their contention, that the object is to enable the first elections to take place on the Saturday. For some reason—either because many of the well-to-do spend all their week-ends away from town, or because the working classes have more leisure on Saturdays, the last day of the week is regarded by both sides as a specially favourable day for the Liberals, particularly in London. Last time, it may be remembered Ipswich, with doubtful legality, polled on the Friday. But with this single exception the contest began on the Saturday. There are a certain number of people with whom a desire to be on the winning side has more force than any political convictions; and the side which does best in the Saturday's polls will to this extent have an advantage. In 1906 it may be remembered the Saturday's pollings were so decisive that it at once became evident what the general result would be.

STATE CANALS.

The important Royal Commission on Canals which was appointed shortly after the present Government came into power has presented its report, and it was published yesterday. It consists of 230 pages, and is of so elaborate and complicated a character that most of the newspapers have been wise enough to suspend judgement upon it until they have had further time to consider it. Out of the nineteen commissioners, of whom Lord Shuttleworth was the chairman, sixteen have signed the majority report, but four of these have made some reservations. Substantially they recommend that the Government should

appoint a Waterway Board with a view to unification and enlargement of existing canals in a series of four great waterways covering the main part of England with a sort of saltire or St. Andrew's Cross, the points of which are situated at Liverpool, Hull, Bristol and London. They estimate that, apart from the cost of acquiring the existing canals which would be brought into this system, a sum of seventeen and a half millions would have to be spent on improvements and additions. The majority of the commissioners signing this report are Liberals or Labourites; but they include also Sir John Dorrington, formerly a prominent conservative M.P., Mr. Griffith, the well-known civil engineer and Sir Francis Hopwood who was formerly at the Board of Trade, and is now Permanent Under-Secretary at the Colonial Office. Lord Farrer, while signing the report, makes the reservation that he is strongly opposed to the principle of state aid which has been embodied in it; and he joins three others of the signatories who take a less sanguine view of the increase of trade which would result from the improvement of the canals, and advise a much more cautious procedure than that which the majority recommend. The three who dissent entirely from the report are Mr. Rennant M.P., Mr. Davison, another civil engineer of distinction, and Mr. Inglis, General Manager of the Great Western Railway. Each of these presents a separate report, the most elaborate and weighty of which is that of Mr. Inglis. Naturally he may be inclined to place stronger faith in railways than in canals; but making all allowances for bias in this direction his warnings are well worthy of consideration. The whole question is, however, so vast and so complicated by considerations of various interests that it will probably be a long time before any legislation is founded on the recommendation.

January 5.

THE NEW YEAR.

The year 1910 was ushered in in the great London hotels with even more elaborate and costly rejoicings than any of its immediate predecessors. It is not more than half-a-dozen years since this custom of smart and would-be smart society was inaugurated; but encouraged by the hotel proprietors, it seems to have established itself firmly. It is stated that 2,000 guests supped at the Savoy, and 800 at the Carlton. A feature of the proceedings at the Savoy, which were typical of the rest, was a huge magic-lantern screen on which was cast the enormously magnified reflexion of a clock-face. As soon as the hands pointed to midnight, gongs struck the hours, the various parties joined hands and sang "Auld Lang Syne" and through the clock-face came a troop of Peary's Eskimaux, who distributed gift and enamel powder-boxes among the ladies. At the Carlton, Sir Ernest Shackleton, the hero of the South Pole, came in for similar recognition. On the whole, the New Year has come in very hopefully, in spite of the impending tremendous political issues. The "Daily Mail" states that, on the Stock

Exchange, the outlook for the year is regarded with "cheerful confidence;" and it adds, "the only blot on the sear-sheet is the uncertainty connected with the approaching General Election; and even as to that it may be remembered that events long foreseen have seldom very much effect in the Stock Exchange."

DUMPING SHOPS.

Whether the "event long foreseen" is a Unionist victory, or a Liberal victory or merely the General Election with all its uncertainty, must be left to surmise. I find that the Unionist organizers take a decidedly more hopeful view of their prospects than they did a week ago. In the game of cross-purposes, in which the Liberals are trying to fight on the issue of the Lords' veto and the Unionists on that of Tariff Reform, the latter certainly seem to be gaining ground. After all that is the practical issue—the issue that touches the pockets of the electors—and the Tariff Reformers have this week made a clever move in the way of establishing what they call "dumping shops,"—shops, that is, filled with manufactured articles of all descriptions labelled "Made in Germany," "France," "The United States," "Belgium" and so forth, together with legends informing the curious that these goods come into England duty free, and that under Tariff Reform they could be made here and would give employment to the British workman "now in the workhouse." The idea was started in Birmingham, and Dumping Shops are already springing up all over London.

GLADSTONE'S CENTENARY.

There is much to be said for the contention that the centenary of a man's death is the earliest date on which he should be publicly commemorated; and this is specially the case when, like Mr. Gladstone, he has lived to such an age that on his hundredth birthday he seems only just to have passed away. Still it must be acknowledged that Gladstone's birth centenary was celebrated so quietly and unostentatiously that his political opponents found no cause to gibe. His statue in the Strand was decorated, a deputation of Bulgarians, headed by their Prime Minister, went and laid a silver wreath, momentarily, it is felt there was a luncheon at the Westminster Palace Hotel, an evening gathering in the Gladstone Library of the National Liberal Club, and an exhibition of portraits and relics of the great statesman at the Southwark Central Library. The silver wreath was placed only momentarily at the foot of the statue because the police authorities declined to take the responsibility of safeguarding it if it were left there; the places of honour at the evening gathering were given to two of Gladstone's most trusted secretaries, Sir Algernon West and Lord Welby; and the first eulogy on the great Liberal leader was pronounced at the luncheon by Mr. G. W. E. Russell. It is rather amusing, by the way, to note how the Conservative journals which were wont to denounce Mr. Gladstone during his

lifetime as the curse of his country now eulogize him as a great leader from whose traditions his party has deplorably fallen away.

ANOTHER GIFT TO THE NATION.

The magnificent bequest of art treasures made to the nation by Mr. Salting has been closely followed by another of hardly less value, that of Dr. Mond who has left all the best of his great collection of works of the Italian Masters to the National Gallery. They include a world-famous early work of Raphael's "The Crucifixion," which once hung in the Church at Citta di Castello, and for which Dr. Mond paid 10,600 guineas some eighteen years ago, a Titian, two Correggios, two Botticellis, and half a hundred works by Italian Masters who are but sparsely represented or not represented at all in our present collection. This bequest will render more than ever necessary an enlargement of the National Gallery. Some half-a-dozen new rooms are in course of construction now; but all the space on the walls of these is already bespoken.

A LOSS TO THE UNIONISTS.

Dukes are at a discount now, since a prominent Unionist M.P. protested that they made themselves heard too much on the present political crisis; but the deepest sympathy is felt for the Duke of Northumberland in the great loss which he and the Unionist Party have alike sustained in the death of Earl Percy after a very few days' illness in Paris. Earl Percy was unquestionably one of the ablest and most promising of the younger men who held office in the last Unionist Government; and he was personally very popular with his political opponents as well as with his colleagues. The party can ill afford such a loss at this time. Should it be successful at the coming election no doubt there will be talent available to fill all the posts in the Government, and some who get the chance will perhaps surprise us with the powers they display. But in the matter of platform oratory, they are hardly a match for their opponents. After Mr. Balfour the two speakers who are most lengthily reported in the newspapers are Lord Curzon of Kedleston and Viscount Milner, both of whom are polished but by no means rousing speakers; and they owe their prominence largely to their being recognized as the real leaders of the Lords in throwing out the Budget Bill. It is understood to have been by them that Lord Lansdowne was persuaded to move its rejection; and although they modestly disclaim the credit of this achievement their disclaimers are hardly convincing. Among the Commoners the best speakers are Mr. Austen Chamberlain and Mr. Bonar Law; but neither of them has in very deep measure the gift of thrilling an audience such as is possessed by the two best-hated members of the Government, Mr. Lloyd-George and Mr. Winston Churchill.

MR. BALFOUR'S SPEECH.

Mr. Balfour has fortunately recovered from his illness and is able to

take part in the electioneering campaign. Yesterday at Hanley, he delivered his first great speech. Apparently adopting the cue of the party organizers he said practically nothing about the Peers, devoting almost his entire speech to the Navy and to Tariff Reform as contrasted with the alternative of Socialism. On the questions of the Navy he was very effective, but his view of the Tariff Reform question will hardly commend itself to the ideas of the "whole hoggers." He contends that a judicious measure of Tariff Reform would encourage the keeping of capital at home and by steadying trade and giving it security would actually increase our foreign imports, while at the same time increasing production and employment at home. I am afraid, however, that a notice in the windows of the "dumping-shops" stating on the authority of Mr. Balfour that the imports of the exhibits would be increased by Tariff Reform would prove rather bewildering to those for whom the lesson of the shops is intended.

MEETING.

THE INTERNATIONAL SKATING RINK, LD.

An extraordinary general meeting of the International Skating Rink, Ltd., was held at the Rink godown, Dent Road, on Monday evening. The meeting was held on the requisition of twenty-six members of the Company and the notice stated that it was called to elect directors and to determine the remuneration of the directors.

Mr. G. H. Thomson, the Receiver, was in the chair and there was a large attendance of shareholders, foreign and Chinese. Two foreign police constables in uniform were in the room. The meeting was held in the godown, under the rinking floor, and skating was suspended for a time; but the skaters began to use the floor again before the meeting was over and the shareholders crowded round the table at which the Chairman sat, so that they might hear what was said.

The Chairman, who could not be heard distinctly, even by persons sitting in the front row of chairs, was understood to say that there was a quorum present and that perhaps he had better preface his remarks by saying that he had been appointed by H. M. Supreme Court to act as Receiver until such time as the shareholders of the Company should appoint a Board of Directors. The Chairman then read the requisition of the twenty-six shareholders. He called upon Mr. H. S. Oppe to give the shareholders a summary of the reasons that had led up to the calling of this meeting.

Mr. Oppe was understood to say that rather than give a summary of the reasons that led up to the calling of this meeting, he would explain the present legal position. The legal posi-

tion was that there were no directors of the Company: the powers of the Company were vested in the Receiver, who would exercise those powers until a Board of Directors was appointed. This meeting had been convened by the shareholders themselves for the purposes contained in the requisition and they might either proceed to elect directors or adjourn the meeting to a subsequent date for the purposes stated in the requisition.

The Chairman stated that, of the gentlemen who had been asked to be directors, two most excellent men for the position of directors were not able to give answers and in the circumstances the shareholders might prefer to defer the election of directors to a subsequent date. However, that was for the meeting to decide.

Mr. D'Oliveira said that he would like to propose that a managing committee be formed, under the Receiver, if this meeting did not elect a proper Board of Directors. This committee would act until such Board was appointed.

Mr. F. W. Barff said that he would have great pleasure in seconding such a motion, but before doing so he asked if these gentlemen were to be elected at this time.

The Chairman replied that they would.

Mr. Barff said that in that case he would second the motion.

The Chairman asked the proposer and seconder to draft the motion. This was done.

The Chairman—It has been proposed by Mr. D'Oliveira and seconded by Mr. F. W. Barff that the following resolution be passed:—"Proposed that a managing committee be elected by this meeting to act with the Receiver and that this meeting be adjourned and that the managing committee determine a date on which the adjourned meeting is to be held, such date not to be later than six weeks from to-day."

The motion was put to the meeting and carried.

The Chairman—Will someone propose the names of the committee?

Mr. Barff proposed Mr. Oppe and Mr. R. W. MacCabe seconded. This was carried.

Mr. G. J. T. Newman proposed Mr. F. E. Schnorr and Mr. Schneider seconded. The motion was carried.

Mr. Barff proposed Mrs. Shorrocks and Mr. J. R. Weeks seconded. This was carried.

Mr. Schnorr said that he supposed it was understood that Mr. O'Dell as manager would be *ex officio* a member of the committee.

The Chairman—He cannot act on the committee, but the committee can ask him to attend their meetings, which is practically the same thing.

Mr. Sweetenham proposed Mr. D'Oliveira, and Mr. Newman seconded.

There was some question as to the voting and the Chairman suggested that the hands should be put up again. A number of Chinese were standing near the table and one person told them to put up their hands, when the Chairman asked for the dissentients to put

their hands up. The Chairman said that they would divide and this was done. Then the question arose as to whether or not the Chinese knew what they were voting for, and no one appeared to be able to ascertain. After a lot of talking in private, Mr. D'Oliveira withdrew his name.

Mr. C. H. Green then proposed Mr. A. W. Bahr and Mr. Powell Robinson seconded. This was carried.

This completed the business of the meeting. The Chairman said that he was willing to listen to any one who had anything to say, but the meeting gradually broke up.

REPORT.

THE LAOU KUNG MOW COTTONS. & W. CO., LD.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The directors submit the following Report together with the accounts of the Company, for the twelve months ended December 31, 1909. (Cents omitted).

In accordance with the resolution passed at the last general meeting, the sum of Tls. 30,044 has been written off to Depreciation Account.

The balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account at the close of the year, including Tls. 4,829 brought forward from 1908, amounts to Tls. 86,905 which the Directors recommend be dealt with as follows:—

To payment of a Dividend of Tls. 6 per share	Tls. 48,000
To depreciation of Mill Buildings Tls. 5,000	
To depreciation of Machinery.....	23,596
	28,596
To 10% Commission on Tls. 53,479 (being Tls. 86,905 less Tls. 4,829 balance of 1908 a/c and Tls. 28,596 proposed for depreciation) to the General Managers in accordance with their agreement.....	5,347
To be carried forward to the New Account	4,960

Tls. 86,905

Directors.—Mr. C. Michelan and Mr. Chung Liang-yu retire in rotation as required by the Articles of Association, but offer themselves for re-election.

Auditor.—Mr. G. R. Wingrove again offers himself for re-election as the Company's Auditor.

J. M. YOUNG, } Directors.
C. MICHELAN. }

ILBERT & Co.,

General Managers,

Shanghai, January 15, 1910.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Tls.
To Repairs and Renewals	8,725
„ Agency Commission.....	4,500
„ Directors' and Auditor's Fees	2,750
„ Balance.....	86,905

Tls. ...102,881

Cr.	Tls.	Tls.
By Balance 1908 ...	71,505.12	
" Less appropriations as passed at last Meeting	66,675.36	4,829
By Transfer Fees		142
" Interest		1,229
" Balance of Spinning Account 1909		96,679
	Tls. ...	102,881
BALANCE SHEET.		
Liabilities.	Tls.	
Capital ; 8,000 Shares at Tls.		
100 each	800,000	
Overdraft at Bankers	79,483	
Sundry Creditors	10,617	
Unpaid Dividends	1,292	
Balance of Profit and Loss Account	86,905	
	Tls.	978,297
Assets.	Tls.	
Buildings	205,929	
Less depreciation	50,929	155,000
Machinery	626,773	
Less depreciation	266,773	
		360,000
Plus additions during the year	3,596	363,596
Reservoir and Land Improvement	33,736	
Less depreciation	25,736	8,000
Furniture	3,705	
Less depreciation	2,705	1,000
Stocks :—		
Yarn	87,529	
Cotton and Waste	332,499	
Coal	627	
Stores	25,959	
		446,614
Unexpired Fire Insurance	4,086	
	Tls. ...	978,297

Shanghai, January 15, 1910.

J. M. Young, } Directors.
C. Michelau, }ILBERT & Co.,
General Managers.

I certify that all my requirements as Auditor have been complied with and I further certify that I have examined the above Accounts and Balance Sheet, and in my opinion the Balance Sheet is a full and fair Balance Sheet, and properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Company's affairs as shown by the Books of the Company.

G. R. WINGROVE,
Auditor.

CLARKE'S WORLD-FAMED BLOOD MIXTURE.—"The most searching Blood Cleanser that science and medical skill have brought to light." Sufferers from Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of any kind are solicited to give it a trial to test its value. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s 9d. per bottle. Beware of worthless imitations and substitutes.—ADVT.

SPORT.

INTERNATIONAL CHESS CLUB.

The return match between teams representing the members of the International Chess Club resident respectively North and South of the Soochow Creek, was played in the Club Room on Saturday evening beginning at 9 p.m. The Match was of eight boards, and resulted in a win for the "Remainder" by 4½ games to 3½. The former match, played earlier in the season, also resulted in a victory for the representatives of the Remainder, they then winning the whole of the four games played.

The undermentioned are the teams and the results of the games :—

Hongkew.	Remainder.
C. A. M. de Jesus. (black).....0½	C. H. Falloon (white).....0½
P. C. de Souza(w)0	Dr M. Culpin(b)1
W. Gaede (b) ...0	F. Dastoor (w) ..1
A. E. Guterres(w)1	C. Claussen (b) 0
C. A. de Souza(b)1	C. Matthews(w)0
J. M. P. Remedios (w).....0	O. Nassauer (b) 1
Dr. S. M. Cox(b)0	W. P. Brown(w)1
F. C. Baumann(w)1	C. P. Dawson (b)0
Total.....3½	Total.....4½

The greatest interest centred in the game between Dr. M. Culpin and Mr. P. C. de Souza, which did not finish till 1 a.m. This game was played concurrently as one of the games in the Championship Tournament (second round), and as Mr. de Souza has held the title for the past two years, a great game was expected. These expectations were fully realized and the game was watched with much excitement by the other players when they finished the games they were engaged in playing. In the second round of the Championship Competition the best of three games has to be played by those concerned, so the second meeting of these exponents will be looked forward to with the keenest interest.

Another game that excited attention was that between Mr. W. P. Brown and Dr. S. M. Cox. The former has only just rejoined the ranks of the Club from long Home leave and the members of the Club congratulated him on signalling his return by a well-earned victory over such a doughty opponent as Dr. Cox. White (Mr. Brown) in this game, towards the latter end, forced an exchange of Rooks, leaving himself with a Knight, with which to the good he was able to dispose of his opponent's Pawns and thus claim a win.

Refreshments of a light description were served during the evening.

S. V. C.

RESERVE CO.'S MONTHLY RIFLE MEETING.

The first monthly meeting of the new year was held at the Rifle Range on Sunday forenoon. There was a large muster of members. The shooting was well up to the standard in spite of a bitter cold wind. The Ranges were 300 and 500 yards Bisley targets and scoring.

The "A" Cup was won by Pte. Dahl with a score of 62 "B" Cup by Pte. Dean with a score of 48, and C Cup by Pte. Forsyth with a score of 45. After shooting there was a drill conducted by Sgt.-Major Studd, Captain Wingrove and Lieuts. Bell and Moore. The scoring was in the hands of Q. M. Sgts. Matthews and Fry. An excellent lunch was provided by Messrs. W. L. Gerrard & Co. and a number of speeches filled up a most instructive morning's work. Capt. Wingrove intimated that Pte. C. Richards had presented the Corps with the Yangtze Cup for competition amongst the members, and that Pte. E. F. Bateman had given a very fine set of field glasses also for competition. These members were very heartily thanked for their generous gifts.

The following are amongst the best scores :—

"A" CUP.				
	300	500	Hcp.	
Pte. Dahl	29	33	—	62*
Sgt. Daldy	32	28	—	60
Pte. Raeburn	33	29	3	59
Pte. Large	31	32	5	58
"B" CUP.				
Pte. Dean	25	28	5	48*
Pte. K. O. Mac-				
kenzie	23	28	3	48
Pte. Watson	22	26	3	45
"C" CUP.				
Pte. Forsyth	20	28	3	45*
Pte. Wells	23	23	5	41

* Denotes winner.

RESERVE CO., S.V.C.

We are asked to state that a mistake was made with regard to the winner of the "A" Class Cup in the monthly competition of Sunday. Pte. Dahl, who was then declared the winner, being handicapped 3 points, now gives way to Pte. Henning and the corrected scores stand as follows :—

	300	500	
"A" Cup.	yds.	yds.	H'cap.
Pte. Henning	30	33	3
Sgt. Daldy	32	28	0
Pte. Dahl	29	33	3
Pte. Raeburn	33	29	3

* Denotes winner.

THE MARINE ENGINEERS' CHARITY CUP.

The Committee of "Marine Engineers' Cup Charity Fund" inform us that they have decided to hand over to the Shanghai General Hospital the proceeds of the entrance money to the match between the Marine Engineers' F. C. and the Rest of the League, which took place on Christmas Day.

The Committee also wishes to take this opportunity of extending its sincere thanks, for their kind assistance, to the Shanghai Cricket Club for the use of the enclosure, the Shanghai Electric Construction Company for the free use of its cars for advertisement purposes, to the Shanghai Municipal Police for their attendance on the ground, and to all others who assisted to bring the result to such a successful issue.

The accounts read as follows :—

CASH STATEMENT MARINE ENGINEERS' CHARITY MATCH.	
Xmas Day 1909.	
	\$
To Gate Receipts.....	278.70
„ Tickets Sold	192.00
„ Exchange—Small money .	1.25
	\$472.05
By Accounts paid	22.05
„ Cash in hand	450.00
	\$472.05
Audited and found correct	
H. GRIFFITHS.	
Jan. 25. 1. 1910.	

RIFLE SHOOTING.

POLICE CLUB'S MONTHLY SHOOT.

The members of the Police Rifle Club held their monthly club and cup shoot at the Rifle Range on Wednesday. Sgt. Mills won the A cup with a score of 61 (6)=56, and the monthly club competition with a score of 61 (6)=55. Sgt. Young was the runner-up in the club shoot. The B cup was won by Sgt. Mackenzie with a score of 64 (5)=59; he also won the club shoot with 64 (12)=52. The names and scores of the second, third, fourth and fifth competitors in the club shoot were as follow :—

P. C. Blyton.....	55 (3)=52
Sgt. Coll	55 (2)=52
P. C. Burnie	52 (0)=52
„ Sinclair	51 (0)=51

CORRESPONDENCE.

HOUSE RENTS IN SHANGHAI.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I was very much interested in the letter signed by Jay Denby in your issue of January 14, on Rents in Shanghai. I admire the courage of Mr. Jay Denby. A prominent business man in Shanghai told me that they dare not attack the landlord in his "appropriations" lest he raise the rents. No. 7 is the most important item in his list. The tenants must get the upper hand; but it is not a question of merely getting relief in case of over-charging. It is an economic proposition and a re-assessment is not the cure but a complete alteration of the incidence of taxation. The tax should be on the lots not on the house rents. A tax on the value of the lots if heavy would compel the owners to build or yield up the lots to builders. With an increase of buildings, rents of these buildings would necessarily come down. Now the taxes make it profitable to hold land idle. A tax on dogs limits the number of dogs, a tax on houses limits the number of houses and raises house rents, while a tax on vacant lots lessens vacant lots by compelling the productive use of the lots.

It will be hard to get all the tenants on one side as there is so much toadyism

yet in this world. Again, it would not be safe for some tenants to show their hands. They might be evicted, or have their business injured. The question of vice in Shanghai cannot be looked into without seeing the shadow of the landlord. He owns the Foochow road with all its abominations. Any effective action taken to suppress vice is looked upon as an attack on vested interests. Woe betide the rash councillor who tries to prevent houses of vice even near the Public School. One of the best councillors was turned down for trying to protect schoolboys from temptation. Lloyd-George's plan may yet be tried in Shanghai and not merely twenty per cent of the future unearned increment be taken as taxes, but 100 per cent of all the unearned increment taken for the common needs. Say the land of Shanghai is worth Tls. 300 000 000, at 5 per cent this would bring in Tls. 15 000 000 of revenue and 5 per cent on all land used or idle would soon double the available house room and lower rents. Shanghai could become a very Utopia, schools, water, tramway, etc., could be free to all.

During the Boxer year inland residents were forced to live in Shanghai which increased the demand for houses, and rents went up 50 per cent. I rented a house that I was told cost Tls. 1,000 and paid Tls. 500 a year rent and Tls. 50 a year taxes, and then the Council tried to reduce half-quarter's taxes, when I was not in the house.

I am, etc.,

W. E. MACKLIN.

Christian Hospital,
Nanking, Jan. 19.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Dr. Macklin's interesting letter upon the above subject in your issue of 22nd instant, touches upon points which are worthy of reiteration and further consideration, as they present his view of the cause leading to inflated rents, and summarize the difficulties to be faced by those attempting to bring rents to an equitable level.

He points out that the landlords took advantage of the excess of demand for accommodation over supply, during the Boxer trouble, when many people from outlying parts sought protection in this town.

Add to this the local trade boom resulting from the Russo-Japanese war, and we have the two main causes for the enormous rents demanded in the past.

By this we see that local landlords have taken full advantage of adversity on the one hand, and prosperity on the other, in order to squeeze out more dollars.

Both of these causes are now removed but the landlords continue to demand their pound of flesh every year, despite the absence of a *quid pro quo*.

By this again, we see that, in his search for something to take advantage of at the present time, the landlord can only light upon the easy-going nature of the tenants, which he is now exploiting to a dangerous degree.

It is, unfortunately, just as necessary for legislation to step in at the present day in Shanghai, as it was in the days of Shylock in Venice, unless, of course, the tenants are willing to be bled.

Dr. Macklin proceeds to touch upon a difficulty in the form of toadyism. This, in my opinion, is not as formidable an obstacle as it may at first sight appear; for the reason that the toady would crawl into line behind someone else so soon as he could not be recognized in the crowd, or his presence with the majority cause remark.

The toady is useless as an instigator, but can be absolutely relied upon to take his share of the advantages obtained by the stronger side, by insinuating himself amongst them directly their strength is manifest.

As to landlords injuring the business of an agitating tenant, I am of opinion that he has already played that card by turning the tenant's pockets inside out, and that unless a reduction in rents is made, most of the tenants will shortly have no business to injure.

The majority of us are agents for home business houses. Is it reasonable to suppose that business men at home will continue to bear an outlay that the return does not justify? During a temporary depression the home firms might do so for business reasons, but they will certainly refuse to meet expenses that are justified only by a trade boom, after that boom has departed, if there are no prospects of its return, which, I contend, is the present position.

When the rent exceeds the earning power of even 20 per cent of the tenants, we may assume that an agitation in favour of reduced rentals is only a kindness to landlords, which inordinate greed precludes them from regarding in its true light. Let us hope that if this good work is accomplished before disaster intervenes, the landlords will have the saving grace to thank the agitators who have prevented their ruin and still further disgrace; despite the difficulty of stirring up a populace whose general temperament is at best characterized by the motto "Rest and be thankful."

Dr. Macklin next touches upon the question of vice in the shadow of the landlord, but this, I am of opinion, should be left alone. Landlords are far more easy to deal with than vice, as is proved by history.

As to Mr. Macklin's remedy—that of taxing vacant lots—I should be glad to have his opinion as to whether it would be more practical to put in a proposal at the forthcoming Ratepayers' meeting asking Ratepayers to vote that taxes, still being paid upon house rents, be charged when the house is vacant at the same figure as when the said house is occupied.

The object of this is, that in view of the point it would cause the landlord to pay several dollars when none are coming in, he would have to consider seriously the advisability of letting at a reduced rental rather than wait, and stand out for the inflated rents he has obtained in the past.

This plan has been adopted, I am informed, with beneficial results, in Australia; and must not be regarded in the light of an experiment.

Taxing vacant land would open up a mass of difficulty that only those initiated into the subject of land tenure in the Settlement could appreciate, and would be against the best interests of foreigners resident here.

In conclusion, for the fear of being misunderstood, perhaps it is expedient to point out that I do not claim that all local landlords, willingly, "and with malice aforethought" take unfair advantage of their tenants. There are cases where the landlords are limited companies and religious bodies, whose reputation with their tenants is such that they need no defence, and with whom no fault could be found but that they assess their rents upon facts and figures which no longer apply.

These will be the first to see that it is a better policy to dismount and bear a little exertion oneself, rather than founder the beast that is carrying one.

I am, etc.,

JAY DENBY.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—The remarkable letter in your issue of the 22nd instant, from Dr. W. E. Macklin of Nanking is surely worthy of consideration. His suggestion appears to be perfectly feasible and I think there must be many people in Shanghai, to whom the question of rent is of first importance, who would be glad to discuss it further. Could not a meeting be called for that purpose? Probably Dr. Macklin would give us details as to how such a radical change in the basis of taxation could be effected and there are doubtless a number of residents here who could bring forward schemes of a similar nature, by which the grievous burden of high rents might be lightened. Personally, I consider the proposals made in the above mentioned letter would, if carried out, solve the difficulty entirely, but so important a matter would have to be discussed in all its bearings ere such a thorough remedy would be accepted by the majority. It is with a view to bringing about such discussion that I venture to write this letter.

I am, etc.,

S. E. STRUMENSKY.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—May I venture to request a little space in your Correspondence columns for the purposes of calling attention to Dr. Macklin's proposal for the reduction of rents in Shanghai, as set forth in the letter you published on the 22nd instant.

The worth of his suggestion is obvious and I am surprised it has met with such scant recognition. Although the idea was given in the boldest outline it will bear the strictest scrutiny and is thoroughly practicable. Among other advantages we should do away with the difficulties of assessment if our taxes were transferred from houses to land.

Each landlord could put his own value on the property he possessed with the understanding that the Municipal Council has the right to buy such property at that valuation. This would prevent him making too low an estimate and, of course, the taxes imposed would restrain him in the other direction.

Many arguments might be brought forward in favour of this radical change in our taxable resources but, at present, I only wish to urge the necessity of giving it our fullest consideration.

I am, etc.,
"HOMME D'AFFAIRES."

OVERCROWDING OF TRAMS.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—While fully appreciating and sympathizing with the desire of the Tramway Company to carry as many passengers as possible over its system, and also to make the 2nd class compartments as attractive as possible to that class of Chinese who 'most do congregate' therein, by reproducing that atmosphere so dear to them, may a foreign passenger venture upon a protest against the overcrowding of the cars?

So far as I can ascertain, there is no by-law which forces the conductor to prevent more than the authorized number of passengers gaining access to a car. There is one which states that a "full" board shall be exhibited, but how many residents have ever seen this so exhibited save at the instance of some foreign passenger?

This morning, one instance of many, Car No. 26 was carrying more than its full complement of 2nd class passengers, when the conductor allowed no fewer than twelve more to enter, or rather to find what standing room they could on the front platform, down the gangway, and upon other people's feet. Unpleasant enough upon a fine day, it is doubly so upon a wet one, but the protests, loud and vigorous, fell upon unheeding ears.

From the attitude of the conductor upon occasions such as this one it is perfectly evident that his instructions are to wink at overcrowding so far as is possible without coming into opposition with the Police.

I understand that the Company is seeking some amelioration of their Agreement with the ratepayers of Shanghai; are the Company's endeavours to meet the comfort of their passengers in this and other directions such as will be likely to command the sympathy of ratepayers when that Agreement comes up for discussion?

I am, etc.,

NIGEL BERNESFORD.

Shanghai, Jan. 21.

PUBLIC RICSHA SERVICE.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—The amended ricksha tariff published under the above head, in this morning's Municipal Gazette seems itself to call for a slight amendment.

It is hardly likely that many people will grudge the higher rate of fare for the use of the very comfortable rickshas of the type introduced on the initiative of Messrs. Denis & Co., and now, I believe, operated by several concerns, but I, for one, should object to the increased tariff being applied to the cheap imitations of the improved vehicles. I refer to the rickshas in the construction of which a thin hard strip of rubber tyre has been added and nearly all pretence of springs removed, so that the superiority, if any, over the old style boneshakers is, to say the least, open to question.

Let the new tariff be adopted, but limit the higher rates to *pneumatic-tyred* vehicles, so that some degree of comfort is assured, instead of allowing all so-called rubber-tyred rickshas to reap the benefit.

I am, etc.,

"DISTINCTION WITH A DIFFERENCE."

MISCELLANEOUS.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

By Telegraph from Peking.

Specially translated for the

"North-China Daily News."

Jan. 20.

(1) Decree from the Lung Yü Empress Dowager received by the Prince Regent, commanding that on Her Majesty's birthday on February 19, the Emperor shall perform obeisance in the Palace, while the Princes, Nobles and officials need not do so. Banquets shall not be given. Princesses and Ladies of Rank need not enter the Palace to perform obeisance. On February 19, Princes, Nobles and all officials are to wear the outer jackets with the embroidered insignia and the Court Beads. On the 15th, 17th, 18th, 21st, 22nd, and 24th they shall wear the ordinary dress and the beads.

(2) Decree in response to a memorial from the Ministry of Rites, stating that the Emperor will perform obeisance before the Lung Yü Empress Dowager in the Palace, on the occasion of his Majesty's birthday on February 22, but that the Princes, nobles and officials need not pay homage. On this day Princes, nobles and officials should wear the ordinary dress with beads, but without beads on February 25 and 26.

The above Edicts are sealed by the Prince Regent and signed by the Grand Counsellors Prince Ching, Shih Hsü, Lu H'uan-lin, Na Tung and Tai Hung-tze.

Jan. 21.

(1) Decree cashiering Ching Ming, Reciter of Prayers, and sentencing him to work on the military post roads for an error in reading the prayer on the occasion of shrining Emperor Teh Tsung's tablet.

Jan. 22.

(1) Shen Chin is hereby appointed provincial Judge of Hupeh; Jü Tai is appointed Intendant of the Shen An circuit, Shensi province.

(2) Decree conferring the rank of Expectant Prefect on Yo Ling, District Magistrate of Yingtai, Chihli province.

The above Edicts are sealed by the Prince Regent and signed by the Grand Councillors Prince Ching, Shih Hsü, Lu Ch'uan-lin, Na Tung and Tai Hung-tze.

Jan 23.

(1) Decree conferring promotions and ranks upon a number of officials, descendants of meritorious officials who have rendered signal services in the Taiping, the Nien Fei and the Moham-medan rebellions, in the reigns of Emperors Tung Chih and Hsien Feng. Their names were submitted to the Throne after inquiries have been made.

(2) Li Chang-lu, Hereditary Viscount is appointed Expectant Prefect and Lin Chao-yang, Hereditary Baron, is appointed Expectant Taotai.

(3) Decree appointing Mou Lin to perform the ceremonies at the sacrifices to be offered upon February 15 before the altar of Grain Prayers.

(4) Decree appointing Tsai Kung and others to perform ceremonies in the Imperial Ancestral Temple on February 19, on the occasion of the first Spring season sacrifices.

The above Edicts are sealed by the Prince Regent and signed by the Grand Councillors Prince Ching, Shih Hsü, Lu Chuan-lin, Na Tung and Tai Hung-tze.

Jan. 25.

(1) Decree conferring the rank of Officers of the Imperial Guards of the 3rd and 4th classes, and gifts in satin and money, on a number of Imperial clansmen who have passed an examination in air-gun practice and in knowledge of the Chinese and Manchu languages.

(2) Decree in response to an impeachment of Feng Jü-Ku'e by Censor Chiang Chun-lin. It states that on the report of Chang Jên-chün, the charges of opium-smoking, selling of offices and nepotism have not been substantiated, but that Feng, Governor of Kiangsi, has been guilty of negligence in appropriating public allowances and in the employment of deputies. He is, therefore, referred to the Ministry concerned for determination of a penalty. Lin Hui, Expectant District Magistrate, is cashiered forthwith for fraud and dishonesty in accounts.

The above Edicts are sealed by the Prince Regent and signed by the Grand Councillors Prince Ching, Shih Hsü, Lu Ch'uan-lin, Na Tung and Tai Hung-tze.

NOTES ON NATIVE AFFAIRS.

January 21.

EXTRATERRITORIALITY.

On Thursday, says a Chinese local contemporary, the Prince Regent inquired of the Grand Council whether, inasmuch as a new code of laws had been prepared and the trial system is to be remodelled in China, the question of abolition of extraterritoriality might not be brought up at the next session of the Hague Conference. The Grand Councillors replied that they must telegraph to H. E. Lu Tseng-hsiang, Minister in the Netherlands, and ask him to report on the subject.

THE PROVINCIAL DELEGATES.

According to Chinese information, much enthusiasm, approaching even to fanaticism in some cases, was manifested at the reception given in Peking last Wednesday to the delegates from the Provincial Assemblies in seventeen provinces. One of the speakers, Wu Yu-shih, an Anhui man, urged that the delegates should resolve to give up their lives to the object of their mission. Such a determination, he felt sure, would not be calmly looked upon by the people in the Empire. This appeal moved many of the audience, including some of the delegates, to tears. Chen Su-ching, a native of Kiangsu, then spoke of the selfishness of the Government in trying to retain their (the Assemblies') powers. He declared that it dreaded the introduction of constitutional government, with the result that the Censorate, at its dictation, was going to defer the transmission of the delegates' petition. He urged strong action in protest and suggested that all the Viceroys and Governors should be asked to persuade the Central Government to favour the petition. The motion was unanimously passed and it was also agreed that a reserve Association should be formed in the capital of members of different classes, to back up the prayer of the delegation.

In reply to the Regent's question on the subject, the Grand Councillors remarked that in view of the fact that public feeling on the subject was growing, it seemed advisable to curtail the period for the convening of a Parliament; but it pointed out that the necessary preparations to put the scheme in operation were gigantic and difficult. His Highness ordered them to consider the question carefully and to report upon the same without delay.

RAILWAY NEUTRALIZATION.

A Chinese telegram says that the Government has decided to draw up the terms of the Manchurian Railway neutralization scheme with the United States, but that both Russia and Japan have expressed their resolve firmly to oppose this step.

THE KALGAN-SUIYUAN RAILWAY.

A native dispatch states that the Yuch'uanpu has appointed Prefect Yü Feng-jen as Manager of the proposed railway from Kalgan to Suiyuan, and that a survey of the route was begun in the 9th moon. It is now estimated that the entire line will cost about Tls. 17,560,000 and this estimate has been placed before the Yuch'uanpu. President Hsü has arranged with his colleagues that this amount should be appropriated from the annual profits of the Peking-Mukden line and the Board will devise other means to fill any deficiency from that source.

TIBET.

It is stated that H.-E. Chao Erh-feng, Commissioner of Defences, has sent a telegram to the Peking Government in which he cited the policy of Great Britain in India and that of Japan in Korea, and urged that, to re-organize that dependency, China has more right to resort to force than the other two Powers had in the case of India and Korea.

January 23.

THE YUET-HAN STRUGGLE.

Native reports say that with regard to the Yuet-Han Railway Loan the Government is divided in its views. Duke Tsai Tse is opposed to a loan, but it is approved by Vice-President Shen Yün-pei, of the Yuchuanpu, and President Liang Tun-yen. For the present the prevailing idea is to obtain a loan for the Hupeh and Hunan section of the line, but it is not yet definitely decided. The Hupeh Representatives have in vain sought an interview with Liang Shih-yi, Councillor of the Yuch'uanpu, who is reported to be in favour of the loan. This official fears the assassination with which he has been threatened. It is reported that the Representatives have vowed to carry out their object even if it costs them their lives. As they failed to see President Hsü Shih-chang, they have handed their petition to the Hupeh official body in Peking. The letter was to call a meeting yesterday to discuss the question of urging the Censorate to present the petition to the Throne.

THE PROVINCIAL DELEGATES.

Telegrams from the Capital report that five Representatives of the Provincial Delegates, who are petitioning for an early opening of a Parliament in China, waited upon the Grand Councillors on Friday last. All the latter were present with the exception of Grand Secretary Shih Hsü. Prince Ching is said to have remarked that as the people wished for a Parliament, he heartily sympathized with them as he, himself, was one of the people. The Representatives explained the idea of a Parliament at some length to Grand Councillor Lu Ch'uan-lin who asked for information, and declared that members of Parliament were unnecessary beyond the Provincial Assemblies. The Representatives replied that Parliament members were to be elected by the people. His Excellency kept the draft of the petition for perusal and learnt from the Representatives that Prince Ching favoured their prayer. H.E. Na Tung observed that he had approved the step all along as one in the right direction, which would be of advantage in the conduct of foreign affairs. When he heard the reply that Prince Ching supported their request but that Councillor Lu Chuan-lin demurred, he remarked that that was no wonder as Lu was both aged and deaf. Grand Councillor Tai Hung-tze told the Representatives that China's laws were deficient and received the reply that when a constitution is established the laws will naturally progress with it. Replying to his question whether the speedy inauguration of parliament will give rise to an evil, the Representatives replied that the Provincial Assemblies had been opened for the first time, but had produced no evil of any kind. The Representatives were to seek an interview with Princes Tsai Tao and Yü Lang on Saturday. A report says that the Bannerman proposed to hold a meeting on Sunday to support the movement. It is

stated later that Prince Ching and Grand Councillor Shih Hsü declared that the time was insufficient for preparations to be made, but Grand Councillors Na Tung and Tai Hung-tze suggested calling for reports from metropolitan and provincial officials and decided according to the majority view. It is further stated that at a recent banquet given by the Italian Minister to the Chinese Government officials a foreign Minister inquired of the matter, and the Grand Councillors replied that this weighty matter rests with the Prince Regent's decision.

RAILWAY NEUTRALIZATION.

At a recent Grand Council conference it is reported that the proposition of neutralization of the Manchurian Railway as proposed by the United States was mooted. T.-E. Na Tung and Tai Hung-tze were of opinion that the scheme was proposed with good intentions by America, and China should await the views of the majority of the foreign powers and act accordingly. Grand Councillor Lu Ch'uan-lin, however, strongly opposed the proposal.

January 25.

THE PROVINCIAL DELEGATES.

As the result, say Chinese reports, of a meeting of the Government Council the Representatives of the Provincial Delegates interviewed Grand Councillor Shih Hsü on Sunday last instead of the day previous. They had a long conversation with the Grand Councillor, who said that he was not at first aware of the necessity for a speedy convocation of a Parliament, but that he had learnt, more recently, from friends the advantages of such a step. This, he said, could be seen from the Provincial Assemblies which have been called. He promised that he would support the petition. Grand Councillor Lu Ch'uan-lin, it is reported, has also given his approbation. Censor Chiang Ch'un-lin has presented a memorial praying the Throne not to delay in the matter, but to decide alone in compliance with public wishes. H.E. Wu Ting-fang, retiring Minister to the United States, also has submitted a memorial with a similar request.

At a meeting of the Bannermen, held on the same day, disorder was created by some one shouting out that whoever wished to destroy the Banner corps should support the initiation of Constitutional Government. The speakers declared that it was more important to provide means of livelihood for Bannermen than to call a Parliament.

THE TUNGKUANSAN AFFAIR.

A Chinese telegram says that the Waiwup is discussing the Tungkuanshan mining affair with the British Minister and a settlement may be expected shortly.

OPIUM SEIZURE.

The Ichang Customs authorities, says a Chinese dispatch, have seized some Tls. 7,000 worth of prepared opium smuggled in medicine chests and the drug has been destroyed.

January 26.

DISPELLING RUMOURS.

A local vernacular contemporary says that the Government has telegraphed to the different provinces stating that the Governor of Hunan has reported by telegraph the prevalence of rumours of the foreign occupation of Manchuria and that ignorant people are holding meetings and printing circulars on the subject. The Government has ordered the provincial authorities strictly to forbid such rumours which are calculated to give rise to trouble.

CHINESE "REFORM."

The "Sin Wan Pao" says that the new metropolitan official system will be proclaimed on the 30th instant. Under it a change will be introduced in the titles of the Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Deputy Vice-Presidents and Councillors of the different Ministries.

NAVAL SCHOOLS.

In view of the re-organization of the Navy now contemplated by the Government, it deems the training of naval recruits as a step of first importance. It has come to the conclusion that in the provinces of Chihli, Kwangtung, Fukien, Kiangsu, Chekiang, Anhui, Hupeh, &c., which are on the coast or on the Yangtze, Naval Schools should be organized. Regulations and curricula for such institutions are ordered to be drawn up, and telegrams have been dispatched to all the Viceroy and Governors concerned acquainting them with the proposal.

THE NATIONAL DEBT.

With reference to the proposed movement to raise a fund in the Empire from the public to pay off China's foreign debts, the President and Vice-Presidents of the Ministry of Finance have decided to wait for some tangible results to be shown in the movement, before a return of the National Debt will be published for popular information.

THE PARLIAMENT QUESTION.

On Sunday last, the President, Associate President and Vice Presidents of the Censorate and the Supervising and other Censors held a great meeting at Hsiai to discuss the question of the petition submitted by the Provincial Delegates urging for the speedy opening of Parliament. That the question was carefully considered may be gathered from the fact that the meeting lasted over six hours.

OPIUM IMPORT.

The Waiwup, says a native dispatch, has received a communication from the British Minister to the effect that the import of opium from India for the year was 58,800 chests which is a reduction of over 5,800 chests compared with former figures. The Waiwup has accordingly informed the Ministry of Finance to take note.

ALLEGED MURDER.

A telegram to a local vernacular contemporary says that a sailor on board a German man-of-war in Kuangchow-wan has been killed by a Portuguese and that another sailor has been wounded by a Chinese. The cases are being tried by the authorities, but

convincing proof of the crimes has not been adduced.

January 27.

CHINA'S PARLIAMENT.

According to Chinese telegrams, an attitude of indifference was maintained by the members of the Government Council at a recent meeting to discuss the question of the prayer to expedite the opening of a Parliament in China; they neither strongly supported the application nor showed any feelings of opposition. The Bannermen, it is stated, propose to appoint two Representatives, with a view to cultivate closer relationships with the Provincial Delegates.

It is further reported that at the interview of the Delegates with Grand Councillor Shih Hsü, he observed that many of the members of the Commission of Constitutional Reforms, whom he had consulted on the subject, thought that a Parliament might be deferred, as there was to be a Senate. The Delegates pointed out the incongruity of the Senate as a Representative Body, and its utter difference from a Parliament. The Grand Councillor then asked whether the people were disaffected in consideration of the great bounties they have received from the State. The Delegates replied that they were not, but that should their petition fail it was feared that their loyalty might be alienated. This statement was received seriously by Grand Councillor Hsü who agreed to accord the application his support.

THE YUET-HAN LOAN.

A Chinese dispatch says that the Hupeh officials, students and merchants in Peking have held meetings to oppose the proposed loan for the Yuet-Han Railway, but that the Hupeh officials who serve in the Ministry of Education all favour the preliminary loan agreement entered into by their late Chief, Grand Councillor Chang Chih-tung, so that a struggle is maintained between these parties.

AN IMPEACHMENT.

It is stated that a Censor intends again to denounce the Governor of Kueichow, H.E. Pang Hung-shu, to the Throne, for his laxity in enforcing anti-opium measures and for allowing the people and the aboriginal tribes to plant and traffic in the prohibited drug.

CAVALRY REGIMENTS.

In accordance with a suggestion by H.E. Hsi Heng, Agent at Kobdo, the Ministry of War will ask for Imperial sanction to his training two brigades of cavalry in order to strengthen the frontier defences at Kobdo.

A LAND DISPUTE.

Mention was made some time ago in these columns of a dispute between the British Consul at Foochow and the local gentry with regard to some land at the Tien An Ssu Temple, adjoining the Consulate. Mr. Campbell, Secretary of the British Legation, was deputed to go into the matter with the Chinese officials and it has now been amicably settled. It was found that the temple is Chinese public property and that the Consulate writers many reside therein, by consent and

arrangement, subject to a three months' notice to quit. The leased land of the Consulate shall be respected, and a right of way by the back door of the temple shall be granted to the Consulate, to afford facility in obtaining water. The settlement of the case on these terms has been reported to the Waiwupu, and our Chinese contemporary compliments Mr. Campbell on his fairness of mind in handling the case.

THE FOURTH ESTATE.

A Chinese report says that the Ministry of the Interior is of opinion that the Press, in enlightening the people and upholding public opinion, does signal service in preparing the way for Constitutional Government; and it proposes, therefore, to include in the Press Laws articles conferring rewards for the encouragement of newspapers in the Empire.

AN IMPERIAL ALLOWANCE.

The Prince Regent has commanded the Government to fix the amount and the regulations with regard to a crown allowance. His Highness will appoint Vice-Presidents Li Chia-chü and Lin Shao-nien to investigate the abuses in the management of the Imperial Household Department as a first step in that direction.

January 28.

THE PROVINCIAL DELEGATES.

Chinese telegrams state that at the instance of the Provincial Delegates, Prince Tsai Tao, the Prince Regent's brother, promised to grant them an audience yesterday on the subject of their prayer for the opening of Parliament. It is stated that the Censorate has drafted a memorial in which will be enclosed the Delegates' petition. The Prince Regent has summoned the Grand Council to discuss the Parliament question.

MANCHURIAN RAILWAYS.

At a recent conference the Government decided to approve the neutralization scheme propounded by the United States, and it has telegraphed to the Chinese Ministers abroad asking them to learn the views of the foreign Powers on the subject.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF FORESTRY.

According to a Chinese dispatch to a vernacular paper the Governor of Kuangsi province has informed the Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce that one Kuo Cheng-li in the Tenghsien district in Wuchoufu, Kuangsi, had planted pines in the 13th year of Kuang Hsü at a place called Kuochochung, over an area of ten li square. He has also spent much labour in opening roads in irrigation and taking care of the plants, with the result that there are over 10,000 pines of forty or fifty feet in height, between 30,000 and 40,000 pines of thirty or forty feet and about an equal number between 10 and 20 feet. These and others amount altogether to about 600,000 trees while some 100,000 are useful for lumber. The Governor requests the Ministry to apply for a reward to be conferred on Kuo, and as the Ministry finds that he has more than accomplished what would entitle him

to a mercantile badge, it will ask the Throne to confer on him a 3rd class honorary badge and also a button of the 4th Grade, to serve as an encouragement to him for his beneficial work.

EMPEROR HSUAN TUNG.

Reports from the palaces say that recently the chief eunuch bought a copy of one of the infant readers written on the new modern plan, and presented it to the youthful Emperor Hsuan Tung. His Majesty was greatly pleased with the book and would bring it every morning to the Lung Yü Empress Dowager in the Longevity Palace, whither he repairs to inquire after her health. He would ask for instruction, it is stated, and would master one lesson in the primer every day, which highly pleases the Dowager.

THE REFORMERS' PARDON.

The "National Herald" reports that the question of granting a pardon to the Reformers of the year 1898 has again been discussed by the Government, but as the majority still opposes the step, it has again been left undecided.

THE CAPITAL.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Peking, Jan. 11.

SIR ROBERT HART.

The Chinese Government appears to be convinced that Sir Robert Hart will never return to China. Some weeks ago, it will be remembered, in compliance with a decree, the Waiwupu wrote to Sir Robert asking him in the politest terms whether he intended to return and if so, when he might be expected. A reply has now been received. The Inspector General says that his health will not allow him to undertake the long railway journey across Siberia, but that he will return by sea "as soon as possible." This answer is considered to be an intimation that he has no intention of returning, for the Chinese accept the message in the Chinese sense.

Jan. 19.

POSTAL INEFFICIENCY.

The Peking public is becoming very discontented indeed with the mail services; and it is no wonder, for we have had neither letters, nor papers from Shanghai dated later than the 6th instant, and it may be some days yet before another mail arrives. When it is remembered that the mail brought by the Kaiping steamers is usually delivered in Peking three days after date the delay is apparent. The present state of demoralization is an annual experience due to the abandonment of the northern service by the regular passenger steamers. Thus the Kaiping boats have a monopoly which they do not cater for, because the interests of passengers and mail services are necessarily subservient to the company's freight trade.

It is pointed out that if the mails of Monday, January 10, had been dispatched from Shanghai by the noon train on that day—allowing ample margins for delay at Nanking and Hankow—we should have received them on Saturday

last the 15th instant. Discontent is not confined to incoming mails, however, for it is impossible to ascertain when steamers are leaving Chinwangtao for Shanghai. We look to the northern papers for information and find schedule notices which are seldom followed, for as the steamers do not arrive on time they are late in leaving.

The public not unreasonably asks why the postal authorities cannot (1) arrange with Chinwangtao for the dispatch of telegrams giving due notice of the exact time of departure of each steamer; (2) send intermediate mails to and from Shanghai by train and steamer via Hankow, or (3) after giving the public reasonable information by means of the local daily newspapers allow the choice of either route.

Chinese officials are beginning to realize the disadvantages of long delays in matters of business and there is no reason to doubt that the Government would meet the postal authorities if the latter would show some enterprise in behalf of the public. The Imperial Telegraphs have had to cope with greater obstacles than those surrounding the postal service; the practical efficiency of the telegraphs is now in marked contrast to the drowsy nugacity of the Posts. The fault lies, of course, with the administration which apparently gives very little consideration to public requirements, but public indignation is now thoroughly aroused and some improvement must be instituted.

RAID IN INDO-CHINA.

On December 30 and 31 about 200 Chinese outlaws, who are said to be ex-soldiers, marched from Yunnan through the mountainous region of Laokai into French territory. Their arrival was at once noted by the French authorities and a force was sent against the invaders. The Chinese were armed and a stiff little engagement occurred in which the French troops were victorious. On the French side one captain was killed and two N.C.O.'s were wounded. The Chinese lost thirteen killed and left thirty wounded men on the field, while six were captured. After their defeat the Chinese retreated across the border.

Although no special importance attaches to this incident the French Minister has made representations to the Chinese Government on the subject of Chinese organized bands invading French territory, in violation of the Franco-Chinese Treaty, and China has promised to exercise greater vigilance in future.

DR. MORRISON'S DEPARTURE.

Dr. G. E. Morrison left here on Saturday the 15th instant by the 7 a.m. train for Honanfu, where his ponies and supplies are awaiting him. Notwithstanding the early hour several Chinese officials of high rank and various members of the diplomatic corps went to the railway station to see him off. Dr. Morrison received a message from "The Times" before he left to the effect that a *locum tenens* would not come to Peking during his absence unless unforeseen developments occurred.

THE MANCHURIAN RAILWAY QUESTION.

China's need of a statesman was plainly demonstrated by her hasty reply to America's proposal to pool the railways of Manchuria. She appears to have acted on the first impulse of her Ministers. No doubt the idea of recovering at once all the Manchurian railways possessed no little attraction, but other aspects of the case soon forced themselves upon her notice. With reflexion came the conviction that Russia and Japan would not entirely sacrifice their possessions; and to pay whatever prices might be asked would, no doubt, be a bad bargain for China. Manchuria had always been a burden to China, and the other provinces had given their assistance grudgingly: the question to be considered was, would the Empire support the Government in the contraction of a heavy loan, solely for Manchuria, at a time when the country's finances were in such a hopeless condition? Moreover, serious complications might arise in dealing with eight Powers. The railways, assuming that the initial difficulties could be overcome, would belong nominally to China, it was true, but the American proposal provided for "higher supervision over the working and business organization," and although the circular stipulated that this was to be exercised on a "non-political basis" it was difficult to see how the effect could be to lessen the alienation of the lines.

These points continued to be discussed in the Grand Council after the reply had been dispatched; and turning to the diplomatic features of her action China began to realize the extent of her error. The scheme was wrapped in a mesh of difficulties, and if it were not carried through, China's position would be a little worse, to say the least, than it was before, for Russia and Japan might resent the attitude adopted at Peking. It was not a pleasant situation by any means. China's reply was sent to Washington on Friday and on Sunday when Reuter's telegram arrived the Government had already arrived at a state of considerable anxiety.

In foreign diplomatic circles undue importance is not attached to the circular. It is thought, however, that the direct result will be the acceleration of the proposed *entente* between Russia and Japan, and that the proposal will not be carried out, even in part—for, of course, diplomatic representations are always made in the maximum, so as to allow a margin for the pruning knife. The interests of Russia and Japan in this matter are identical, and, although the sale of their Manchurian railways for spot cash might possess distinct attractions for Russia and Japan at the present moment, it is felt that Manchuria has not reached a stage at which political interests could be set aside. Neither Power would accept the proposal separately, if that were possible, because competition is too keen still between the old rivals. Consequently it is expected that a joint reply will be given—sympathetically, no doubt. More-

over the interests of Korea enter into the matter, for it could never be supposed that international enterprise would end with the railway, and Japan has that to take into account. A glorified international settlement of Manchuria, inaugurated at China's expense and providing a suitable investment for the surplus millions of Europe and America, might lead to the establishment within a decade or two of a republic of Manchuria. But there a fresh danger would begin, for neither Britain nor Japan desires the partition of China—indeed all their efforts are directed against that possibility—and the international exploitation of Manchuria would be the first step towards it. Germany's prompt and sympathetic reply is interesting, but it is not forgotten that Germany is in the same happy position as America of having nothing to lose by the introduction of radical changes. It must not be supposed, however, that the opinion is held here that America's proposal is intended as a blow either at Russia or Japan; for America, notably in the recent Crane and Cloud incidents, has given clear proof that she earnestly desires to give no offence in the Far East.

In conclusion, Reuter's telegram in defining the railways referred to was slightly misleading. The American circular spoke of all the railways of Manchuria, namely, from Manchuria Station (not Harbin) to Dalny (Tairen).

THE SOCIAL SIDE.

The past week has been a gay one. On Tuesday evening, January 4, Sir John and Lady Jordan were "at home," and gave a small and exceedingly enjoyable dance. Between five and seven, on the following day, a large number of people called on Sir Robert and Lady Bredon, whose first and third Wednesdays are so deservedly popular. On Thursday evening, the Austrian Minister and Madame de Kuczynski gave a large dance at the Austrian Legation. The dance was preceded by a dinner party, to which several Chinese of rank and distinction were invited. The spacious hall of the Legation and its large reception rooms are excellently adapted to entertainment, and presented a brilliant appearance. The feature of the evening was a cotillon over which Madame de Kuczynski had spared no pains and many of her devices were at once pretty and amusing. On Friday evening, the second of the four subscription dances, arranged for this season, took place at the Club, and in spite of the "late night" of the previous day was well attended. Then, on Saturday, the teams which had come up from Tientsin to play Peking at hockey and bowls were entertained at dinner at the Club. In addition to these, so to speak, public engagements, there have, of course, been a number of private dinner parties.

SPORT.

Teams from Tientsin visited Peking on Saturday in order to try conclusions with the representatives of Peking at hockey, ice-hockey, and bowling. The

hockey match was fast and interesting. At half-time the score was two all, but the Tientsin players were in the better form and pressing strongly after the restart they won by the three to two.

In the evening the game on the Peking Club's rinks was very exciting, and for some time fairly even. Tientsin showed better combination, however, and won by four to two.

The bowling resulted in a third victory for Tientsin in no uncertain manner.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY.

Yesterday was the fifty-first birthday of the Emperor William II and the day was celebrated with the customary honours in Shanghai. The Settlement was decked with flags, the men-of-war in harbour dressed ship and celebrations were the order of the day for our German fellow-residents. In the morning a reception was held at the German Consulate-General by Herr von Buri and was numerous attended, among those present being; the Taotai and other Chinese officials, the members of the Consular Corps, the Shanghai Commissioner of Customs and Mr. H. E. Hobson, the members of the Municipal Council, the officers of S. M. S. Jaguar, the Captain-Superintendent of Police, the Commandant of the Volunteers and a large muster of the German community. Shortly after twelve o'clock at the Club Concordia the loyal toast was proposed by the President, Herr C. Stepharius, in an able speech and the health of the Emperor was drunk and loud cheers were given. A luncheon on board S.M.S. Jaguar in honour of the day followed, and in the evening a large banquet was held in the Club, which was illuminated for the occasion.

THE FANCY FETE.

(Contributed.)

"There will be no game to-morrow."

This was the announcement many of us received on Friday evening and once more we felt keen disappointment. Saturday came, the playing fields were closed and the country was reported to be unfit for riding. At noon, like Mr. Micawber, I was still waiting for something to "turn up," although I am not such an optimist as he, when someone spoke of the Fancy Fête. Now fêtes of any kind were not in my line, being of a retiring disposition, but I was reminded that the King's Daughters' Society Fancy Fête was to be held solely for the purpose of assisting that benevolent Society's Charity Fund and that it was the duty of every member of this Cosmopolitan community to do his or her little to replenish coffers that were impoverished as the result of the doing of many good deeds, giving real

help and encouragement to the needy and distressed.

Thus we found ourselves at the Town Hall later in the day and, having passed a policeman who enquired for fifty cents each, were ushered up to a gentleman with a "bran pie." Of course we "had a dip," who could have refused him? We were feeling somewhat perplexed as to what to do next, as the lines of magnetic force were as numerous if not as well defined as those of a steel magnet, when a tall young man in a most grotesque costume espied us and persisted in his attempt to place in our hands small balloons for which he asked "thirty cents for the large ones and fifteen cents for the small ones." Charity is hard to deny, but—I reflected what would I look like carrying a balloon about, and there were so many ladies present. Screwing up my courage I denied the appeal of the vendor. I thrust my gloves into my pocket and determined to make for a "side show" or get to the other side of the hall and assume an air of the "I have been here a long time" style, when a bevy of young ladies, taking advantage of my hesitation, began to speak of the merits of a Variety Entertainment, Wax Works A Maze, a palmist, a pumoloe shy and many other things too numerous to mention. The elucidation of the problem was not easy. I thought of the advice once given by an Irishman, "if yez will be plased to throw a few half-pence among them, it 'ill scatter them, Sir, and then you can get out." But we had no desire to get out; what we wanted was to do something and that quickly. Just at this time some one began to beat a big drum most unmercifully and some one else to blow a horn with such violent discord as to be almost ear-splitting. The showman's invitation to "come and be swindled" was irresistible; we went—but were not swindled. The wax works were stated to rival Madame Tussaud's, in fact the showman told us that the proprietor consulted him before adding models to that world-famed exhibition. It was just as well that the showman did not hear the remark made when he said this as it was the same remark that Peary made to Cook later in the entertainment when he claimed that he had discovered the North Pole. On the stage were arranged "models" of "the Shanghai Fireman's boy," "Commanders Peary and Cook," "the Man who was killed by a smile" and "the Lady who did it," "Little Bo Peep," "Bluebeard and Fatima," "Mrs. Pankhurst and a policeman," "H'ophelia Jine" the showman's housemaid assisted him to display the excellence of the models. The showman reminded me of "the greatest man an earth" of "La Poupée" fame, and certainly the models and their automaton-like movements were excellent, the wordy war between Peary and Cook underneath a pole on which was seated a Teddy bear, making everyone laugh heartily.

We strolled out with the crowd into the big hall again and were pounced upon by two clowns who desired our presence at the Variety Entertainment,

The music of a chorus from "Floradora" could be heard and the clowns won the day. The north room was packed and we had to stand, but the choruses from "Floradora" and "The Toreador" were excellently rendered. Mr. Drew sang a good song, and then Miss Petersen gave "The Sunflower and the Sun," with a chorus of Sunflowers. This item brought back memories of a visit to a well-known theatre at Home to hear this song when it first came out, and it was good to hear it well sung again. Mrs. W. H. Bell next gave us "The Glow-worm," with light effects. She was assisted by the Misses Petersen, Montrie, Gould and Price who composed the chorus of Glow-worms. This entertainment concluded with Espanas from "The Toreador" by Mrs. W. H. Bell, Misses Montrie, Petersen, Gould and Price; and Messrs H. R. H. Thomas and A. M. Lester.

The confusion of intricate windings and turnings known as the Maze soon had us as much "lost" as if we were in a London fog and when I did get out I had to confess to the fair attendant, not without a blush, that I had not found my way through. A group of strolling singers next attracted our attention, and they rendered a splendid programme, which was as follows: chorus from "The Dollar Princess"—Tennis; Song and chorus from "Tom Jones"—On a January morning; song from "The Dollar Princess"—A Self-made Yankee maiden; Song, with chorus of girls, from "The Dollar Princess" Chewska; part song, "A lass of Richmond Hill."

In turn visits had to be paid to the gymnasium where refreshments were served, the cocoanut shy, the candy booth, fortune tellers, conjurers, etc but we resisted all efforts to bring us to the stalls where Chinese porcelain, screens, embroideries, etc. were sold. Unfortunately we missed seeing the Illustrated Nursery Rhymes, but it was said that this was as good as any of the other shows. It was getting quite late when a lady desired us to visit the Smoking and Coffee Room before leaving, and then the fête was closed until after dinner. We had a most enjoyable afternoon and so did everyone else apparently; there was a large attendance and it was gratifying to hear that a substantial sum of money had been received.

At night a grand concert was held in the gymnasium and the numerous shows and stalls were also again well patronized. The programme of the concert was as follows:—

1. Quintette... (a) Allegro.
(b) Andante con sentimento... Coleridge Taylor.
Misses Jansen and Scott.
Messrs. Nichtenhausen and Measor.
2. Songs... (a) An episode ... Hermann Lohr.
(b) As Bess one Day... Liza Lehmann.
Mrs. Connell.
3. Song... The King's Minstrel.
Mr. Lewis.
4. Recitation ...
Mrs. Connell.

5. Song...

Mr. Cochrane.

6. Quintette... Saliat D'amour..Elgar.
Misses Jansen and Scott and

Messrs. Nichtenhausen and Measor

It is quite impossible to give the names of all those who took part or were responsible for the success of the fête, but the officers of the King's Daughters Society are to be congratulated on carrying out such an elaborate fête splendidly. It may, however, be mentioned that Mrs. Petersen was responsible for the Variety Entertainments; Miss Belbin and Mr. Foster Kemp for the wax-works; Mr. E. Hall for the Strolling Minstrels; Mrs. Reynolds and Mrs. Stewart, assisted by the Junior King's Daughters, for the Refreshments; and the Illustrated Nursery Rhymes, specially for children, were under the direction of Mrs. Evans and Miss Hutchison. The large stall of fancy goods was in charge of Mrs. Newman.

SHANGHAI VOLUNTEERS.

FIELD OPERATIONS.

There was a very poor attendance of volunteers at Saturday's field operations, for out of an approximate strength of 1,000 officers and men, only about 300 assembled at the Race Course to participate in the afternoon's manoeuvres. No doubt the paucity of attendance was due to many supposing that the operations would not take place on account of the recent wet weather and the consequent bad roads. The companies present at the Race Course and their numbers were as follow —

Unit	Officers	Men
Artillery	2	32
Maxims	1	13
Medical Staff...		2
Japanese	2	23
"A" Co.	3	21
Engineers ...	3	28
Customs	1	25
American	1	14
Chinese	3	80
Portuguese ...	1	9
German	1	18
Buglers		13
"B" Co.	1	10
Staff	6	4

The Light Horse also joined in the operations, but no return of their numbers was furnished to the Orderly Room staff.

At about half-past two the volunteers began to arrive, and at 2.45 they fell into line. The cold, biting wind that blew from the west, seemed to make the men very uncomfortable, and many must have been pleased when, twenty-five minutes later, they moved off. The procession, headed by the Town Band, marched along the Bubbling Well Road to Ferry Road. Here, the Portuguese Company marched off and took up its position in a native village. The idea was that they represented a body of raiders (many of whom were armed with modern rifles) who had taken possession of the village, and had to be dislodged.

by the Shanghai Volunteers. The attacking party split up into three columns. The right was composed of "A," "B" and the Customs Companies; the centre of the Engineers, Japanese and German Companies, and the left was represented by the Chinese Company. The three columns advanced simultaneously, while the Artillery shelled the position from the north, and the Light Horse completed the rout that the infantry and the artillery had begun.

At the conclusion of hostilities, all the troops reassembled at Gordon Road, near the Riding School, where the band was in waiting, and they marched back to the Race Course, arriving there at about 5.15.

The small attendance, of course, materially lessened the value of the operations, as it was not possible to carry them out so well as could have been done had the companies been better represented and the country in a more suitable condition. In the circumstances the men must be congratulated on the good showing that they made, for the weather was far from pleasant, and many of the roads bore all too plainly the effects of the recent rains.

That the scale on which the operations were originally planned had been reduced, would seem to have been shown by the fact that only five rounds of ammunition were served out to the riflemen, and the artillery fired only two rounds from each gun.

THE FRENCH A. D. C.

"ARSENE LUPIN."

The forty-sixth production of the Société Dramatique Française, which took place at the Lyceum Theatre on Monday night, marked a great departure from the light, wholly artificial comedy to which the Société has devoted its talents in late years. In one sense, no doubt, the word artificial might apply well enough to the story of *Arsène Lupin*; at least it is to be hoped that aristocratic burglars, of the type that has lately become so popular on the stage, are not common occurrences. But the play in question, notwithstanding the battle of wits between *Arsène* and *Guerchard* the detective, is essentially one of incident and realities as contrasted with the fantasies of farce. In some ways, perhaps, the change of style may be thought to have involved some loss of those special qualities that have made the Société Dramatique so attractive in the past. But the play was acted with spirit and rapidity; it was excellently rehearsed, the nimbleness of the thieves being particularly good; and considering the length of the four acts, it says much for the artistes that they should have been able to bring the play to an end even as early as they did.

THE PLOT OF THE PLAY.

The story of the play is briefly as follows. About seven years before the time at which we are introduced to the characters, *M. Gournay-Martin*, a nouveau-riche, has bought the old Castle of *Charmance* in Brittany.

Here a mutual affection springs up between his daughter, *Germaine*, and the young *Duke*, heir of the *Charmance* family. But as *Germaine* is still too young for matrimony, the *Duke* decides to fill up the intervening years by undertaking an expedition to the South Pole. From Montevideo comes the news that he has fallen dangerously ill and nothing more is heard of him for two or three years till a telegram suddenly announces his return. He comes back a changed man, with his affection for *Germaine* decidedly cooled. But as she is all radiance at the prospect of becoming a duchess, the arrangements for the marriage go forward. The party is assembled in the great hall of the castle when the *Duke* notices that his portrait is no longer among the family pictures, its place being filled by a strip of tapestry. The picture, he is told, has been stolen from its frame three years ago, by that most illustrious and ingenious of thieves, *Arsène Lupin*. Even as the story is being told, a letter is brought to *M. Gournay-Martin* from *Arsène Lupin* himself, who declares his intention of visiting, on the following day, *Gournay-Martin's* house in Paris, and appropriating from the magnificent collections there whatever pleases him, in particular the famous diadem of the *Princesse de Lamballe*. All decide to start at once for Paris by motor; only to find, however, that two of the cars have just been stolen and that the third is in need of repairs. It is arranged that the *Duke* shall go in the car as soon as it is repaired, while the others take the first train. When the party reaches Paris, the *Hotel Gournay-Martin* is found to have been pillaged. The house is a wreck, everything valuable is gone except, curiously enough, the *Princesse de Lamballe's* diadem; and *Arsène Lupin's* signature is left on the walls. This is the point at which we are introduced to *Guerchard*, the celebrated detective. But whether *Lupin* carries out his threat of obtaining the diadem and who he was, are questions on which the writers of the synopsis have purposely kept silence, because thereon depends much of the play's excitement and interest. And for that reason also, in view of the second performance that takes place to-night, it would not be fair to give away the secret here. Suffice it to say that the plot is worked out with all the ingenuity of which the French nature is capable, and that while the ending is deplorable in point of sound morality, the authors could have won the sympathy of the audience in no other way.

There certainly can be no doubt of the entertainment provided by *Arsène Lupin*. The opening of the first act is inclined to drag, although this may have been due chiefly to the failure of the ladies to whom the opening scenes are entrusted to make themselves heard. Indeed throughout the evening there was a regrettable falling off from that clearness of enunciation for which the members of the French A. D. C. are usually so distinguished. Also in

the third act what should be one of the strong scenes is weakened by the comparative readiness with which *Arsène* gives himself away. The fourth act is magnificent, a perfect orgy of thrills from start to finish. The trick with the lift in this scene is a beautiful bit of "booby-trap" work and it was very skilfully managed: with this exception, however, the scenery must be described as adequate but not elaborate.

THE ACTING.

With regard to the acting it must, once again, be confessed that the men of the cast were far in advance of the ladies. Of the latter, it is true, none but *Sonia* has anything like the opportunity of some of the men. Yet in the beginning of the first act, the interplay of pride and envy between *Germaine* (Mme. Menier) and her friends *Jeanne* and *Marie* (Mlles. Chiffon and Didi) is clever and might have been more clearly expressed, if only for the atmosphere which it serves to establish. The outstanding feature of this scene was the delightful little sketch of a French keeper, left alone in the castle and a prey to imaginary terrors, given by M. Laferrière. The two principal characters of the play the *Duc de Charmance* (M. Thesmar) and *Guerchard*, the great detective (Mr. Portier) were most ably interpreted. M. Portier received a warm welcome on his return to Shanghai. *Guerchard* in his hands becomes quite the proper detective, imperturbable, ironic, full of observations, deductions, nods and becks and wreathed smiles. The part involves some of the most difficult work, whether for amateur or professional, that in which the actor has to hold his audience by facial expression and intonation of voice rather than by action; and the manner in which M. Portier made his train of thought visible was most graphic. The special qualities of the *Duke* must be seen not described; but they were well brought out by M. Thesmar who was particularly good in the fourth act. His throwing of a police agent in this act was beautifully executed. As *Sonia*, Mme. Tobb was fairly effective but did not quite appear to exercise the influence in the play that this character is meant to have. The *juge d'instruction* was the conventionally comic person that he usually appears on the French stage and was well played by M. Reivax. *M. Gournay-Martin* (M. Fano) was inclined to be a little stiff. The gesture of throwing up the arms and falling back into a chair must not be too often repeated. The policeman, another conventional figure of fun, was appropriately played by M. Lhuy and the concierge and his wife (M. Permy and Mme. Sertal) did well in their little scene before the *juge d'instruction*. *Victoire* (Mlle. Marié), the *femme de chambre*, was a sympathetic character and the *Charolais* family (MM. Le Bris, Servanin, Durand and Auguste) really gave one quite an attack of nerves with the sense of perpetual thieving which they managed to introduce.

In conclusion may it be asked why a huge prompter's box need be put in the middle of the front of the stage? It

is, of course, always present in theatres in France, to the amazement of those who know how French theatres pride themselves on realism, which the prompter's box greatly disturbs. But is there any particular reason why the custom should be transplanted to Shanghai? The complaint is not new as regards the Société Dramatique, but this fact need not be used against its reformation.

THE BANDMANN CO.

CAST.

The Bandmann Company brought their stay in Shanghai to a close on the 21st instant at the Bijou Theatre with Robertson's famous comedy; and the acting made one regret all the more that the artistes should have been debarred, by force of circumstances, from playing in a more commodious theatre. As a play "Caste" wears extremely well. With the correction of a few details that would have dated it, there is nothing to lessen its applicability now from when it was first produced; and the interpretation was fully worthy of the play. We have seen the Bandmann Company do nothing better. The *Eccles* of Mr. Henry Dallas and Mr. Harry Neville's *Sam Gerridge* stood out by a good deal above the rest, but no part can be said to have been poorly played. Mr. Douglas Vigors, who, as *George D'Alooy*, has to show us the difficult contest between love and a keen perception of caste, was excellent; as was Mr. Charles Vane in the part of the good hearted but somewhat fatuous *Captain Hautree*. Miss Dundas as *Esther* was happiest, if the seeming paradox may be forgiven, when most sad; and Miss Lucy Beaumont scored a real triumph as *Polly*. The *Marquise de St. Maur* was well played by Mrs. Henry Dallas. The audience was keenly appreciative of a performance which, leaving out of all account the disabilities imposed by the theatre, was as good as any we remember in the Bandmann Company's repertoire.

THE FORTNIGHTLIES.

It is a pleasure to observe that these concerts are gradually growing in popularity and that the Committee's efforts are being deservedly rewarded by an increasingly large attendance; on Tuesday night the Hall was quite filled by a thoroughly appreciative audience. The programme presented was a most interesting one and arranged so as to appeal to those music lovers who might find a whole evening of Brahms and Strauss somewhat solid fare.

Mr. Corbett-Smith prefaced the concert with some interesting remarks about these two composers, incidentally touching upon those qualities demanded in a good song-writer, and showing how the great masters of the art have frequently revealed new depths in the poems set, depths which the poets them-

selves had not imagined. With regard to Brahms the speaker drew attention to the special characteristics of his songs, the love of conflicting rhythms, the combination of two or melodies, the foundation of a large proportion upon German *Volkslieder*, the composer's love of nature, and soon. Of Richard Strauss, the speaker remarked that he was probably the most commanding figure in present day music, that conflict lately centred round him as once it had done round Beethoven and Wagner. The songs, of which he had composed about fifty, were but the smallest of his work, but, in the speaker's opinion, some twelve of these represented the art at its best. The great importance of the piano part was also pointed out, that frequently the voice merely supplied an obbligato.

Mr. Meyer is one of the very few vocalists one can recall who may please by sheer beauty of voice alone. Whether through nervousness or not is uncertain; but he was not up to his usual standard on Tuesday night, although nothing can affect the quality to which we have alluded. Miss Waddington was well suited in Strauss's deservedly popular "*Standchen*," sung in French, but a more sympathetic touch seemed to be required in "*Wir wandelten*" of Brahms. This singer's accent, French and German, is as delightful as it is rare in an English vocalist, and her singing gave great pleasure. In the Song Cycle by Aston Tyrrold she was heard to particular advantage, although here again the addition of warmth of feeling would have been welcome. However, with the composer at the piano, the singer had no difficulty in securing the hearty approval of her audience for this most engaging little group of child songs. Her rendering of "*Look over the wall*," with its quaint conceit, "*I saw a Ship*"; and its beautiful close upon a chord outside the tonic key; and the merry "*Ring the Bells*" were particularly noticeable.

Mr. A. J. Walker introduced three of Stanford's sturdy "*Songs of the Sea*" with a male chorus, with the greatest success, this item proving a most popular one.

Lastly but far from least, mention must be made of the masterly playing of Mrs. Cochrane in the *lieder*. This lady is a born accompanist and her sympathetic interpretation of the piano-forte parts is as convincing as it is beautiful. Mr. Hurry played three little pieces by Brahms with rare insight into the composer's meaning; and also the very difficult accompaniments to Stanford's songs, with ease and fluency.

THE RIOT AT TUNGHIANGHSIEN.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kashang, Jan. 26.

DESTITUTION AND TAXATION.

I telegraphed you yesterday of the riot at Tunghianghsien. It had been anticipated that there might be trouble when the granaries were opened for the

reception of tax rice. On account of the poor crops the people had made efforts to have the taxes reduced. It seems that the official had agreed that those who had practically no crops should not be required to pay taxes, but was unwilling to yield to those who had crops, even though they were small. Some say that the people had made unjust demands, but of this we cannot be sure. Fearing trouble the magistrate was slow about announcing the opening day for the payment of taxes, but finally fixed on yesterday.

For a week or more there has been a feeling of unrest and the farmers, some really destitute and all claiming to be in need, began to come in crowds and force themselves on the well-to-do people to be fed. At first only women and children came, but later men came also. Early yesterday morning everything was quiet throughout the city, but at ten o'clock the howling of a mob of about five hundred strong outside the North gate was heard. The gate was closed and guarded by soldiers, who had been brought in by the authorities some days before. After the crowd had yelled for some time the soldiers began to fire blank cartridges, hoping to frighten off the people. The mob responded with stones and brick-bats, and the military had to load and fire bullets. They apparently aimed to wound rather than to kill, but one countryman was killed outright, and this served further to infuriate the mob. With the aid of a confederate, who had previously entered the city, the gate was opened and the crowd surged in. They at once proceeded to the yamen, which they demolished. The General in Charge of their prefecture arrived with ten gun-boats just after the mob got into the city. After destroying the yamen the crowd gradually quieted down, but late in the afternoon had not left the city.

In the course of the fight two farmers were killed and thirty-three wounded men, soldiers and farmers were brought to the little mission hospital for treatment, six of whom were seriously injured. As the medical staff consists of only Mrs. Price and Miss Corriher, a trained nurse, Dr. Venable was called by telegraph from Kashing.

No hostility was manifested towards the mission, or the government school. It was the latter they were after when they burnt the mission chapel and school two years ago. Dr. Price of the Southern Presbyterian Mission was in the midst of the crowd several times helping to get the wounded into the hospital, but met with no ill treatment. The authorities, however, placed a guard at the mission compound and it was thought wise for Mrs. Smith, Mrs. McGinnis and children, escorted by one of the men, to come to Kashing. The General insisted on placing his launch at their disposal. As they passed out of the gate they saw the smouldering remains of a gun-boat, which had been battered to pieces with stones and then burnt. It is reported that two soldiers were bound to the dead body of a farmer and that their comrades were afraid to release them.

Precautions have been taken in case there is another attack to-day, but up to 12 o'clock we have no news.

•• Our telegram to-day shows that there has unfortunately been a repetition of the riot.—Ed.

WOMEN'S WORK IN JAPAN.

Throughout the history of Japan women have had great influence upon its affairs, and one of the most instructive sections at the Japan-British Exhibition at Shepherd's Bush will be that devoted to women's work.

There are to be fine samples of lace-work, drawn-work, gold and silver work, embroideries, and brocades. In the matter of the toilet, English women will be delighted with the exhibition of the exquisite toilet sets—useful as well as artistic—and with the beautiful modern richly embroidered costumes made by Japanese women. The British public will also see what Japanese women are doing in connexion with the Red Cross Society of Japan, which is one of the most thorough and well-equipped organizations of its kind in the world.

In the Great Palace, near the Wood-lane entrance, will be a series of wonderful spectacles. The hall will be divided into twelve sections, each containing an historic tableau. The first of these representations will carry the spectator back twenty-five centuries, to the time of the Emperor Jimmu—from whom the present Emperor claims descent in a direct line. It will show the architecture, costumes, and weapons which existed in that remote era. The remaining tableaux will depict Japanese history at various epochs to the present time. For the embellishment of the tableaux all the great collections of Japan have been laid under contribution.

The Japanese fine art section of the exhibition will be unrivalled on account of the contributions which are arriving from Japanese national and private collections, as well as from the principal temples, which contain so many splendid works of art. Every object shown in the section will come from Japan. No loans from collectors or dealers in this country will be exhibited. This fact alone adds enormously to the value of the collection, for the great majority of the exhibits are such as not only have never before left the country, but are not accessible even to travellers who visit Japan.

COMMERCIAL NOTES.

BULLION.

Messrs. Samuel Montagu and Co.'s Circular dated London, December 30, contains the following:—

GOLD—The greater part of the £1,000,000 in the market on Tuesday was bought for the Bank of England, the price being unchanged at 77s 9d p. oz. Std. A large withdrawal of sovereigns was made for Germany on the same day.

The following amounts were received by the Bank of England from abroad:—

Dec. 23, £28,000 in bar gold.

„ 24, 13,000 in sovereigns from Australia.

„ 29, 20,000 in bar gold.

Withdrawals were made as under:—

Dec. 23, 50,000 in sovereigns for the River Plate.

14,000 in sovereigns for South America.

Dec. 28, 480,000 in sovereigns for the Continent.

The net efflux during the week is £483,000.—

SILVER.—Although there have been but four working days this week, a fair amount of business was done, particularly on Tuesday and Wednesday, when large buying orders were received from both China and the Indian Bazaars, sufficient to absorb the accumulation of selling

orders that had taken place during the holidays.

We are informed that the Bombay offtake is increasingly satisfactory, as many as 180 bars being taken off the market daily. At this rate, and there seems to be every prospect of its continuing for some time to come, the stock will be comparatively small at the time of the next settlement. At the present moment there are only 9,000 bars available, the smallest stock since June 9. In London also, the stocks are quite moderate, which is evinced by the fact that although money is dear and scarce over the end of the year, there is no premium on forward silver.

■ A shipment of £90,000 has been made from San Francisco to the Far East.

SILK.

■ The following shipments of silk were forwarded from Shanghai on Saturday, the 22nd instant, per N.-D.L.S. Derfflinger:—

Raw Silk—

For New York	46 bales.
„ Genoa opt.	235 „
„ Genoa Milan	20 „
„ Milan	48 „
„ Marseilles opt.	10 „
„ Lyons	117 „
„ Hamburg opt.	15 „
Total.....	491 „

Yellow and Wild Silk—

For Port Said opt.	59 bales.
„ „ Beyrouth... ..	5 „
„ Alexandretta	15 „
„ Alexandria	9 „
„ Beyrouth.....	7 „
„ Genoa opt.	55 „
„ Genoa-Hamburg- Bremen	48 „
„ Milan	65 „
„ Lyons	10 „
Total.....	273 „

Waste Silk—

To Marseilles	31 bales.
„ Trieste.....	21 „
„ Genoa.....	270 „
„ Milan	16 „
„ Manchester	117 „
„ Hamburg.....	2 „
Total.....	457 bales.

MANCHESTER GOODS.

A Manchester report of December 30, 1909 says:—The holidays interfered considerably with business, which the upward course of prices continues to retard. No relation exists between cotton and yarn, or yarn and cloth. The inquiry for India is still on light fabrics. Inquiry for China is at low rates to lead to much business. It is pointed out that stocks abroad should show a decided reduction when the spring demand begins to affect them, especially in China, and some sanguine observers even anticipate some early resumption of indent buying for that market when the Chinese New Year settlements are concluded and traders are compelled to face the altered conditions of the market. As very few engagements for early shipment seem to have been entered upon there may be something in this view of the position. Yarns are dull; shipping bundles are very quiet,

BABY'S AWFUL CASE OF ECZEMA

**Terrible Humour from Head to Foot
—Had to be Wrapped in Cotton
Wool—Discharged Uncured After
Three Months in Infirmary—
Scratched Until Bandages were
Soaked with Blood.**

DREADFUL DISEASE CURED BY CUTICURA

“My little boy is barely two years old, and when he was about eight months old he had to undergo an operation and have something taken out of his face. But when the time came for the operation to take place he had broken out with eczema to such an extent that he was one mass from head to foot and had to be wrapped in cotton wool. He was for three months in the Infirmary under three doctors. They managed to get him sufficiently well to operate on him, but could not cure him, and at the end of three months turned him out with his shoulders and top parts of his poor little arms one mass of thick scabs, so bad that they sent splints with him in case they would be needed. The worst places were, unfortunately, just where all the weight of his clothes hung on them, and one had only to look at the child to know what he suffered. Though I put bandages on at night, he managed to rub or scratch them till he was soaked in blood, and corrupt matter in the morning, and the rags had to be made wet to get them off, as they were stuck fast to the places. I got one each of Cuticura Soap, Cuticura Ointment and Cuticura Resolvent. From the very first application he began to mend, and in less than a fortnight he was quite clear and now, at the end of a few weeks, it is scarcely possible to tell where the places were. He cannot say many words, but I was quite touched when he once showed his arms, telling me “It had all gone,” and the subject had not been mentioned. It has quite set him up and he is getting quite a nice strong boy, not a bit like he was. I have recommended Cuticura to several suffering with eczema. Mrs. F. Webb, Alderton, nr. Towcester, Northamptonshire, Eng., July 3, 1908.”

Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humour of Infants, Children and Adults consists of Cuticura Soap to Cleanse the Skin, Cuticura Ointment to Heal the Skin and Cuticura Resolvent Pills to Purify the Blood. A Single Set often Cures. Sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 8, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. T. Jones & Co., Sydney; So. Africa, Lennons, Ltd., Cape Town, etc.; U. S. A., Foster Drug & Chem. Corp., Boston. ^{and} Post-free from London depot, sample of Cuticura, with book on skin diseases.

Messrs. Richard Haworth & Co.'s Market Report dated Manchester, December 30, 1909, contains the following:—

American Cotton continues its upward course and prices at the close last night show an advance, since our report of the 22nd instant, of about 22 points. The market is mainly under the influence of the American markets. How far the speculation in progress there is justified by the prospective shortage of supply, remains to be seen; but that it will be carried beyond legitimate limits appears very probable.

Egyptian, in sympathy with American, and also in prospect of diminished supply, continues to harden, and prices show an advance since the 22nd instant of 7½d. per lb. "Good" Brown being quoted 14½d.

This position in the Cloth market does not improve, progress being blocked by the rather stiff rise in cotton, which was unexpected, and makes business in all quarters more and more difficult to arrange. The market is quiet and subdued owing to the poor state of trade; but the tone is firm, and prices remain upon a decidedly high level.

For the large markets of India and China, the turnover is small and business is within very narrow limits, while the incoming mails from the minor outlets do not indicate any movement towards a healthier state of affairs; in fact, the reports, almost without exception, speak of the dull conditions prevailing—what little demand there is being generally at rates which stand no chance of acceptance on this side.

In the Home trade section, the conditions have been of a semi-holiday character, and very little business of importance has been transacted.

The market closed steady 9 points higher on the day:—Middling spot, 8.49d; last week (Dec. 22) 8.18d., last year, 4.99d.

Egyptian Cotton steady:—"Good" Brown, 14½d.; last week (Dec. 22), 14½d.; last year 8½d.

RUBBER.

The following extract is from "the London and China Express" of December 31, 1909:—

The market for Pará is steady, but quiet, only a moderate business having transpired. Fine Hard on the spot and December delivery quoted 7s. 7½d. and Dec.-Jan. 7s. 6d.; Feb.-March and March-April sold at 7s. 5d. to 7s. 4½d., and buyers. Soft Fine Dec.-Jan. and Jan.-Feb. quoted 7s. 0½d. sellers. The receipts at Pará this month are 3,400 tons. Plantation is quoted at about 7s. 9d. to 8s. 1d. for good average sheet.

The news from Brazil that receipts of rubber from the interior were a good deal smaller than expected has caused shorts to be apprehensive, and some manufacturers to place orders. The waters of the Amazon have fallen again, and present advices point to a possibility of the substantial receipts now expected being delayed. Added to this the United States have been buying largely in Brazil.

THE SHARE MARKET.

At the opening of the market in Rubber shares after the holiday it was at once apparent that the advance which had been in progress previously registered was to be continued. Besides the demand here a great many orders to purchase came also from the East and other quarters, including the Continent. The closing year finds good demand, especially for those companies which have reached a stage at which they can take full advantage of the high price that has ruled for the product. A "bull" point for the market, and one that has not been unduly reiterated, is the probable cheaper cost of production on Plantation Estates. With the present high price of rubber now ruling, the public does not concern itself particularly about a few pence per lb. in costs one way or the other. The industry is quite in its infancy, and experience is consequently very limited. Expenses in any untried field are disproportionately large, and it seems pretty safe to assume that, with wider experience, cost will sensibly lessen. If the price of Rubber, for any reason whatever, were to have a severe drop, a few pence in cost would be well worth the saving.

With the renewed spurt and the holidays being passed, we may look for further new issues to be placed before the public. The first will probably be the Labu offshoot known as Cheviot Rubber, Ltd. Another flotation that may be expected shortly from the same group will offer a proposition situated in Kedah. It may be noted that one result of the 1909 boom is the large number of companies floated to acquire plantations. With very few exceptions the issues have been exceedingly well subscribed. Those which have not taken well were either launched at an inopportune moment or offered at terms which the public, often without due cause, regarded as unfavourable.

TWO BROTHERS IN SHANGHAI Cured by DR. WILLIAMS' PINK PILLS.

The one of Skin Disease, the other of Rheumatism.

It is just as useless to try and cure Eczema and Skin Disorders by the use of Ointments and Salves as it is to try to cure Rheumatism by the use of Embrocations. The rubbing in of these things may ease the pain and discomfort for a time, but as both Skin troubles and Rheumatism are disorders due to an impure condition of the blood, obviously, the only permanent way to cure either is through the blood. By their unique purifying and, at the same time, strengthening action on the blood Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have cured thousands of cases of Eczema and other forms of Skin disease during the past twenty years; likewise, because they drive the poisonous acid which causes Rheumatism out of the blood, they have earned a world-wide reputation as being the greatest remedy known for this agonising malady—in fact they have cured

more cases of Rheumatism, even in its worst forms, than of any other malady excepting, perhaps, Anemia.

"It was in the year 1907 that eruptions broke out on various parts of my body," said Mr. F. S. Gonsalves of 7 Elgin Road, "I had been run-down in health for some time before this, had no appetite and no energy.



Mr. F. S. Gonsalves of Shanghai.
(From a Photograph.)

The eruptions were in the form of dry scaly praches or blotches, which were very irritating and also very unpleasant in appearance. I believe they were a form of Eczema. One of the best known physicians in Shanghai prescribed an Ointment for me which I used very carefully, according to his instructions, but without deriving benefit. Then in a little book, which reached me through the post, one day I read that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People are a remedy for ailments arising from impure blood, and thus was induced to try them. After taking a few bottles of these Pills I found that my skin was getting better, so I continued with their use until all the eruptions had disappeared. For the past two years I have had no return of this unpleasant complaint and have enjoyed good health in every other respect. I can safely say, then, that my cure by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills is a permanent one.

"After my own cure I recommended Dr. Williams' Pink Pills to my brother who had been a sufferer for years from Rheumatism in the back," continued Mr. Gonsalves. "This Rheumatism was so bad at times—especially during damp weather—that he was laid up in bed with it. From the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills my brother derived immense benefit, in fact for eight months past he has had no return of his old complaint."

Among other complaints Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People have been proved to cure are Indigestion, Liver Disorder, Back-pains, Malaria, Sciatica, Paralysis, St. Vitus' Dance, Beri-Beri, and those special disorders which afflict women between youth and middle-age. Obtainable at most shops where medicines are sold, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills can also be had from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 84 Szechuen Road, Shanghai, 6 bottles for \$8—, or 1 bottle for \$1.50 post free.

HANKOW STATISTICS.

The following statistics, published under the direction of the Hankow General Chamber of Commerce, are dated Hankow January 12:—

EXPORTS.

The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight, excluding cost of packing for export:—

	per picul.
Cowhides, Best selected.....Tls.	43.00
" Seconds..... "	37.00
Buffalo hides, No. 1 Best selected 10/35 lb.	24.70
Buffalo hides, No. 1 Best selected 35/60 lb.	
Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white colour, avge. 2lb. "	75.00
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or P.ochi... "	10.60
White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayn..... "	9.40
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow..... "	12.45
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu..... "	11.35
Animal Tallow..... "	11.50
Gallnuts, Usual shapes... "	15.20
" Plum..... "	18.00
Sesamum Seed, White, Yellow, Red and Black... "	5.50
Wood Oil..... "	8.80
Black Bristles..... "	119.00

COTTON.

American Cotton has ruled rather steady, between 7.59 cents and 7.73 cents, so far as Liverpool is concerned; but New York has been fluctuating widely and after touching 13.62 and 13.76 cents, for March and May respectively, has again recovered to 14.38 and 14.42 cents for the same positions.

Chinese Cotton.—There has been practically nothing doing in this market, which is quite steady at last week's quotations.

In their circular on the American textile trades the H. B. Claflin Company remind us that the appreciation in values is not confined to cotton, "but has been steadily accumulating in all sections of agricultural products as well as on returns of farm properties and on real estate." General commodity prices have risen more during the last five years than for at least several decades. On the whole comfort is found in the reflexion that "salutary conditions in the larger sections of commerce have tempered the depression in others, and even now, when the cotton trade is doing very badly, those manufacturers who make for the home trade are doing better than those who make for export, "many of whom are running short time or partially closed." Messrs. Claflin believe in a continuance of strong cotton markets and they compare the figures of consumption of American cotton for the last six seasons with the crops. The increase of consumption from 1903-4 to 1908-9 is calculated as about 30½ per cent, but if the 1908-9 crop were to be taken as a normal one the increase in cotton would be even greater. The total consumption for the six seasons comes to 71,967,000 bales and the total crops to 73,851,650 bales. Thus in the six years the crops had gained 1,884,650 bales on the consumption.

There will be another tale to tell at the end of the 1900-10 season.

YARN.

Bombay Yarn.—During the interval the market has been very quiet and as Chinese merchants are busily engaged in closing their accounts, owing to the approach of the Chinese New Year, business of only 400 bales is reported, at last week's quotations. Clearances have improved considerably, but no fresh business is expected until after the holidays.

The Bombay market is reported to be very firm, but no business whatsoever has been done for China during the interval.

Japan Yarn.—Owing to the large stocks in the hands of Chinese middlemen, who are anxious to realize, the market has been rather on the weak side and about 2,000 bales have been sold during the week.

The Japan market is quiet and the latest quotations from the Osaka Yarn Exchange are: Yen 128.20, 129.80 and 130.30, for January, February and March delivery.

LIST OF GENERAL EXPORTS.

There is very little business passing in the market at present, but it is expected that after the Chinese New Year there will be a regular business taking place in Raw Skins. A few small transactions are reported in Weasels, at fair prices.

COAL.

In Japanese coal, prices have been maintained all round and there seems to be a healthier prospect in the market. Stocks of good qualities are not excessive, but in poorer grades smart losses are being suffered.

The price for Cardiff coal remains the same, although stocks are much reduced. In other grades, there are no changes to report.

CHINESE NEWS.

(Translated from the Chinese Press.)

It has been suggested that Inspectors of Military Supplies should be appointed in the provinces and the matter is under consideration by the Ministry of Finance.

Viceroy Yüan Shu-hsün, in Canton, has ordered his subordinates to consider the taking down of the city walls of Canton and has called for tenders to develop the Pratas islands.

Dr. Morrison, "The Times" correspondent in Peking, has gone on a visit to Shensi, Kansu and Chinese Turkestan and will return thence to England.

The Commissioner of Customs at Kinkiang has been awarded the Order of the Double Dragon, 1st class, 3rd Division.

An explosion of gunpowder occurred a few days ago at the Fushun coal mines which resulted in the loss of over thirty lives.

A Tokio telegram says that it is announced in the Japanese Press that Japan's enemies will be the United States and Germany.

The Ministry of Finance, the President of which was recently invested with supreme control of the Salt Gabelle, has opened a school in Peking for the study of salt administration and has also dispatched delegates to study salt taxation in Japan.

Prince Ching has been commanded by the Prince Regent to exercise care and direct Commissioner Kao Erh-chien in negotiating the Macao Boundary question.

It is intended to let the contract for constructing the Senate building in Peking to a German firm for the sum of Tls. 800,000.

The Russians have started in Peking a newspaper in English as their organ. The first issue appeared last Friday.

Viceroy Hsi Liang has obtained one month's leave of absence.

The construction of the Ichang railway is being pushed on with the utmost dispatch and the survey of the route has been completed.

A Censor has memorialized the throne on the subject of Manchuria the home of the reigning dynasty. He states that it is necessary for China to be prepared for an alliance between Russia and Japan, as such a course may turn out more than a mere rumour.

Another Censor has advised that the Chinchou-Toonanfu loan should not be concluded in haste, as the step may be productive of evils.

The Navy Commissioners, Prince Tsai Hsün and Admiral Sah Chen-ping, have telegraphed to the Government reporting their expected arrival in Peking on January 30. The Yuch'uanpu has dispatched deputies to Manchuria for their welcome.

The Ministry of War has communicated to the different divisions of troops urging them immediately to organize courts-martial and military prisons.

The Viceroy of Kansu has impeached the Financial Supervisor in that province.

The Government intends to change the Court of Imperial Astronomers into a surveying Department and to adopt new and modern methods in its working.

The Viceroy of Yunnan has reported to the Grand Council the constant acts of oppression committed on the people by the French workmen on the Yunnan-Anam Railways and prayed that the French Minister be asked to prohibit such action.

The Prince Regent proposes to call on the foreign Diplomatic Representatives on the 28th to improve international relations with the Powers.

It is stated that some Cantonese and Fukienese have raised a large fund and are attempting to secure railway concessions throughout the whole empire of China. The President of the Yuch'uanpu is somewhat struck with the idea.

The Government has telegraphed to all the Viceroys and Governors ordering them to report on the practicability of the stamp duties.

Presidents Na Tung and Liang Tun-yen of the Waiwupu have been in conference with the foreign Legations for the past few days with regard to Manchurian affairs and the Yuet-Han Railway Loan.

H.E. Pao Fên, Governor-designate of Kiangsu had his farewell audience of the Regent on Sunday and was to leave Peking for his new post to-day. The report that he will be transferred to the Honan Governorship is incorrect.

The Ministry of Finance has telegraphed to the Financial Supervisors in the provinces asking them to report at once on the land taxes and salt duties.

The Hupeh officials and provincials in Peking have formed a Railway Association.

As Prince Ching's leave of absence has expired, he has attended to his duties though he is still unwell.

In drawing up a Code of Railway Laws, the Yuch'uanpu begins by studying conditions on the Chinese Railways.

The Government has decided to leave the Presidency of the Senate unfilled for the present as the choice is a difficult one.

It is stated that, according to the proposed new official system, Taotais and Prefects should come under the Ministries in Peking and Magistrates should communicate direct with Viceroy and Governors.

The Yuch'uanpu has submitted a report to the Throne on the management of the China Merchants' S.N. Co. as carried on under official superintendence.

As Prince Tsai Hsün is returning to China via Manchuria, the Manchurian Viceroy and Governors have arranged to proceed to Harbin to welcome him on his return.

The Yuch'uanpu has remitted the preliminary Yuet-Han Railway Loan Agreement to the Ministry of Finance for perusal, but it has been shelved by President Duke Tsai Tse on account of opposition to the loan by the Hupeh people.

Liang Shih-yi, Councillor of the Yuch'uanpu, has been ordered to Manchuria to welcome Prince Tsai Hsün.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce proposes to establish Fishery companies and schools in the provinces and has reported upon the scheme to the Throne.

The Grand Council intends to establish a rule permitting provincial Treasurers and Judges to present memorials to the Throne, a privilege which is now confined to Viceroy and Governors.

Grand Councillor Tai Hung-tze has personally requested that a President for the Senate may be appointed.

It is reported that Prince Ching has been absent two days from the Grand Council and feels inclined to resign his post. Prince Yü Lang, it is stated, will join the Council.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce have suggested the organization of lecture classes on tea plantation in the different provinces and an Edict has been issued approving the plan.

It is expected that Prince Tsai Hsün will arrive in Peking on the 31st instant.

Two Censors in Peking have presented a joint impeachment against Viceroy Sung Shou of Fukien and Governor Feng Ju-kuei of Kiangsi.

The charges made were numerous and important.

There has been a considerable export of wild silk from Mukden and that exported from Hailungfu alone has increased to twice its former quantity.

Owing to the large quantity of beans exported from Vladivostok and Harbin, the price for this commodity has greatly risen.

The British Minister in Peking, it is stated, has written a letter to the Waiwupu, recommending two British naval officers to be China's naval advisors.

The Government Council has deemed it necessary to draw up a code of Central Administrative Laws, in order to lay the foundation for the organization of a new Cabinet in the Government.

The Prince Regent has ordered that the regular lectures on different subjects given in the Palaces should be continued during the one month when the official seals are closed.

The authorized fashion in the dress of girl students proposed by the Ministry of Education will come into force from next year after the seals are opened.

It is proposed to take a census of the population in Peking in the first moon, next year.

President Hsü Shih-chang is carrying on negotiations with the Diplomatic Corps in Peking on China's joining the Postal Union.

It is stated that the British and United States Ministers in Peking have offered to mediate in the Macao Boundary question between China and Portugal.

The Government has in contemplation the organization of a special Ministry for the Admiralty.

The Agreement for the Chinchou-Tsitsihar Railway will shortly be submitted to the Throne for ratification.

Duke Tsai Tse, President of the Ministry of Finance, intends to requisition the services of H. E. Chang Chien, President of the Kiangnan Provincial Assembly, to assist him in the Salt administration.

It has been proposed to apply the Yuet-Han Railway Loan to the construction of railways in Yunnan and Kweichow provinces.

As the French Minister in Peking has demanded permission to build a railway from Lungchow to Nanning, the Yuch'uanpu has given orders to the Governor of Kuangsi to survey and report on the route.

Viceroy Chen Kuei-lun of Chihli has dispatched two Taotais to Changchun to welcome Prince Tsai Hsün on his return from Europe. His Highness is expected in Tientsin on the 29th instant.

LOCAL NEWS.

The German torpedo-boat S. 90 left Shanghai on the 24th instant.

A new paper, "The Peking Post," began publication at the capital on January 14.

A FRENCHMAN residing at Kobe has been arrested at Kobe on several charges of alleged fraud.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day	Month.	Barometer.		Wind.	Hygro- meter.	Thermometer in Shade.		
		A.M.	Atmos. Therm.		Force.	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Max. Min. Initial.
JAN.								
1.	20.58	44.4	S	2	40.7	28.3	22.1	0
2.	20.24	44.6	W	3	20.3	24.6	26.1	73.8 or
21	20.25	44.1	W	4	24.4	24.6	28.2	83.4 or
22	20.45	43.8	W	4	20.4	28.2	22.7	0
23	20.55	42.6	W	4	21.8	27.5	25.0	27.1
24	20.54	42.8	W	3	21.8	27.7	28.9	17.2
25	20.44	42.5	W	1	21.2	28.4	29.1	29.3

b. blue sky l. lightning s. snow
c. clouds m. misty (hazy) t. thunder
fog o. overcast (dull) x. calm.
h. hail a. rain
Force from 1 to 12, estimated.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

SHANGHAI.

Thermometer in the open air in a shaded situation in the Settlement.

1910.

Jan.	Day	Fahr. Thermometer.		Rainfall in inches.
		Min.	Max.	
Jan.	21	33.0	37.8	0.50
"	22	31.0	36.4	—
"	23	30.0	34.7	—
"	24	28.0	37.0	—
"	25	27.4	36.8	—
"	26	27.2	47.5	—
"	27	34.5	37.5	—

1909.

Jan.	Day	Fahr. Thermometer.		Rainfall in inches.
		Min.	Max.	
Jan.	21	27.2	34.2	0.04
"	24	28.1	36.8	—
"	23	25.8	42.0	0.05
"	24	32.0	43.8	—
"	25	33.1	46.8	0.16
"	26	33.2	47.1	—
"	27	36.7	42.8	—

THE total amount of soja beans exported at Tairen during 1909 was 462,423 tons and of bean cake 306,309 tons.

AN Aeroplane Association, for the promotion of the study of airships and flying machines, has been established at Tokio.

CREDENCE is given in some quarters in Japan to the rumour that Russia intends to sell her portion of the island of Saghalien to the United States.

THE Governor of Hunan, reports "The Westminster Gazette," has ordered from France a complete set of machinery for refining antimony.

A DANISH adviser to the Chinese Imperial Poste, Peking, has applied for naturalization papers. The application is said to be the first recorded in China.

MORE Chinese are emigrating to British Columbia, the local Chinese Labour Agency finding it remunerative to import Chinese despite the poll tax of G. \$500.

FOR attempting to evade the sugar tax a Japanese merchant at Osaka has been ordered to pay a fine of Y.12,284 and was sentenced to penal servitude for five years.

It is reported that General Kawamura, now Commandant of the Tokio Garrison, will be appointed Governor-General of Kwantung, Japan's leased territory in Manchuria.

At the Mixed Court yesterday morning Yeu Chi-pu was fined \$50 for

having purchased a child aged eleven years, who he had good reason to believe had been kidnapped.

COLONEL C. J. L. Davidson, D. S. O., commanding the 1st. Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers at Tientsin, will vacate the command, under the four years rule, in November next.

An American lady doctor at Hong-kong has been fined \$10 for practising without a licence. The defence was that, as she had married a Chinese, she was a Chinese practitioner.

At the Matsushima branch of the Osaka Spinning Company on January 15 work-women to the number of 700 went on strike, cut the threads from their spindles and destroyed machinery.

Of the officers whom the Chinese Government is sending abroad to study the construction and navigation of airships, several are to go to Count Zeppelin's airship school at Friedrichshafen.

It is estimated that 70,000,000 letters, cards and newspapers were handled by the London postal authorities during Christmas week, while 2,000,000 parcels were dealt with.

THE Chinese Chamber of Commerce at Harbin held a meeting on the 9th instant and decided to disburse Tls. 100,000 in clearing away the snow, in order to restore communications in Northern Manchuria.

On January 19 Vice-Admiral Sebree, Commander of the American Pacific Squadron, and twelve other American naval officers were presented to the Emperor of Japan by Mr. O'Brien, the American Ambassador at Tokio.

A London telegram of January 12 to the "Hochi" states that Mr. Henry Finlayson, a graduate of Aberdeen University, has been appointed a Professor of the Political and Financial Faculty of the Peking University.

It is reported that a contract has been entered into between the Japan Steel Foundry and a London syndicate, in connexion with a loan to the Foundry of Y10,000,000. The terms of the contract will shortly be published.

THROUGH frauds upon the Japanese Tobacco Monopoly, two Japanese, who were recently convicted, are said to have obtained improperly, tobacco to the value of Y.1,414,400.

Two ice-breakers are reported to be en route for Vladivostok from St. Petersburg. They are to be employed in the survey of the Northern Sea which is to be undertaken by the Russian Navy.

THE Japanese War Office has been engaged in distributing 10-centimetre, 12-centimetre, and 15-centimetre heavy guns of the 38th year pattern among heavy artillery regiments, and the distribution is said to have recently been completed.

THE two members of the Korean Mission of apology, who had been staying in Tokio, left for home on the 11th instant. They are quoted as saying that on their return they will give a circumstantial report of their mission to the representatives of different localities in Korea.

A TELEGRAM from Tokio to the Osaka "Mainichi" states that at about 2 a.m. on the 13th instant, the Sorokaku, the residence of Prince Ito at Oiso, was broken into, some important documents being stolen. The Oishi Police station is said to be trying to keep the matter secret.

THE foreign population of Harbin has increased by leaps and bounds during the last few years, and at present consists, in round numbers, of 19,600 Russians, 800 Japanese, 600 Austrians, 250 Greeks, 160 Germans, 18 Frenchmen, 17 Americans, 8 British, 6 Italians and 4 Swedes.

RECENTLY a Canadian Pacific special train with mails for Japan and China made an average speed of nearly 80 miles an hour over 1,482 miles of the 3,000 miles which separate Quebec from Vancouver. At many places along the line speed was increased to over 70 miles per hour.

THE snow which fell in Japan on January 11 was five inches deep at Sasago Pass, and one foot and three inches at Hinoharu. At Uye-suwa it reached one foot and two inches, and north of Matsumoto it was six or seven inches deep. Owing to the snow, all trains in those districts were delayed.

NINE boats having on board some ninety fishermen from Sakae, Sosa, Chiba prefecture, proceeded to sea on the afternoon of the 14th instant, and subsequently encountered a heavy storm. The next day three boats with thirty-one men returned safely home, but the rest of the vessels and fishermen are missing.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha has planned to lay out a Japanese garden, covering about one hundred tsubo, in the compound of the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition in London. All the trees, rocks, etc., required for the purpose were taken to London by the Company's liner Kamo-maru, which left Yokohama on the 5th instant.

A SERIOUS accident occurred at the Naval coal mine at Katsuno, Kurategori, Fukuoka prefecture, Japan, on the 11th instant. A chain attached to a steam-winch suddenly broke and a coal-box dropped on the miners who were working below. One was killed on the spot and twelve others were seriously injured.

A collision occurred between a torpedo-boat and a steam-launch at Yokosuka on the night of the 14th instant. The torpedo-boat sustained severe damage, and sank shortly after the collision. The men on board were all saved. The accident was due to rough weather.

GREAT importance is attached in Japan to Lieut.-General Fukushima's trip to Manchuria, although the General himself says that it has no special significance. It is generally believed, according to the "Jiji Shimpō" that his trip is connected with the neutralization question. The General is expected to return home by the end of this month.

At 3.30 a.m. yesterday, a fire broke out in a Chinese store in the Rue Ratard Extension, French Concession. The French Brigade was summoned and had

little difficulty in extinguishing the flames. The store in which the fire occurred was totally destroyed and the adjoining shops on either side suffered damage by fire and water.

It is reported from Nanao, Tokuyama, Miyazu, and some other places, mostly north and west of Kobe, that snow fell heavily there on January 18, and was lying on the ground to depths of from three inches to over a foot. At Nanao, a number of telegraph poles collapsed, causing an interruption of telegraphic communication.

VLADIVOSTOK will soon be equipped with an electric car service. The municipality has contracted with a New York firm for the construction of tramways and the installation of electric lighting in the city for twenty years, guaranteeing a revenue of 6½ per cent on the capital. Any revenue above this will be equally divided between the city and the contractors.

A MESSAGE from Gifu, Japan, says that on the 16th instant a man named Matsubara Kinroku, thirty-seven years of age, of Nakamura village near that city, who was an earnest Buddhist, caused his relatives to make a fierce fire. Declaring that Buddha Amida had been incarnated in him, he then jumped into the fire, and was instantly burnt to death.

In consequence, doubtless, of the impending conversion of a section of the Japanese National Debt, State securities are very buoyant in Tokio. The old five-per-cents have not only risen above par, but have also made a leap of 50 sen on the 15th instant, and are now quoted at Y. 100.90. The other five-per-cent Government bonds have reached within five sen of their face value.

It is stated in a London cable, dated January 14, to the "Asahi" that "The Times" has received reports to the effect that there is cause for great anxiety as to the Tibetan situation. There are ceaseless conflicts between the Chinese authorities and the Tibetans, and the Chinese Regent has received a petition asking him to remove the latter's grievances. If things are left alone, a war may ensue.

WITH a view to converting Port Arthur into a commercial port, the Japanese authorities are now constructing a pier for the exclusive use of loading coal. The work is expected to be completed towards the end of next month. It is stated that the entrance to the harbour, which has been blocked by sunken vessels since the close of the late war, has now been cleared, and that the entrance is well lit.

A TAIREN telegram dated January 19 to the "Mainichi" states that the price of beans has risen as high as Y3.70. This is believed to be the result of great efforts made by merchants to buy up the article in view of the fact that the discount allowed on the Chinese Eastern Railway's charges has enabled Vladivostok to attract beans from the Changchun districts.

THE Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Ltd., kindly informs us that the total output of the Company's three mines for the week ended January 15,

1910, amounted to 27,963.82 tons and the sales during the period to 25,559.90 tons. For the week ended January 8, 1910, the total output amounted to 27,464.66 tons and the sales during the period to 24,175.69 tons.

In order to construct proposed new lines the Japanese Railway Bureau desires to issue railway bonds this year, by which means it will also be enabled to carry out a scheme of improving the existing lines. The matter, says a dispatch from Tokio, has been submitted to Baron Goto, President of the Railway Bureau for consideration. A meeting of responsible officials in the Bureau will be held shortly to consider the proposal.

At 9.15 p.m. yesterday a fire broke out in a Chinese store, No. 1969 Sinza Road, and before the Fire Brigade were able to reach the scene the flames had spread to the adjoining houses. After a couple of hours of strenuous work the Brigade got the flames under control, but in the meantime five houses and their contents had been completely destroyed and seven other houses had been damaged by fire and water.

EARLY on the morning of January 19 the branch office of the Resident-General of Korea in Ichisaiwaicho, Tokio, was destroyed by fire. The building, which was a three-storied one, covered 130 tsubo. The damage is estimated at about Y 40,000. The Yokohama Fire Insurance Office is interested to the extent of Y 12,500, and the Kyodo Fire Office is interested to a similar amount, while the Meiji Fire Insurance Company is liable for Y 10,000.

THE compradore of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation's Nagasaki agency, is said by "The Nagasaki Press" to have disappeared and it is reported that he is believed to have left Nagasaki on Sunday afternoon, says "The Japan Advertiser" of January 15. A warrant has been issued for his arrest and the police are actively engaged in attempting to discover his whereabouts. Nothing is known definitely as to the extent of the Bank's loss, if any.

A TELEGRAM from Tairen says that the revenue of the South Manchuria Railway on the 1st instant was Y 77,000, a figure never before reached. The telegram adds that the daily revenue now averages about Y 65,000. Supposing that about one-half of the latter figure is net profit a very substantial return is shown on the capital sunk by the general public in the line, though when the Japanese Government's share is taken into account, the showing is not so favourable.

A STATUTORY meeting of shareholders of the Pengkalan Durian Estate, Ltd., was held at the registered offices of the Company, No. 48 Szechuen Road, yesterday afternoon, in order to comply with the Hongkong Ordinances. Mr. H. Ollerdesen occupied the chair and there were also present Messrs. H. Meyer, C. W. Ure and Chun Yet-ching (Directors), as well as other shareholders. The Chairman stated briefly the present position of the Company and

announced that the capital had been fully subscribed.

NEXT trooping season there will be an almost complete change among the Indian troops in the garrisons of the Far East, reports the "South China Morning Post." The 3rd Brahman, now at Agra, will come to Hongkong in relief of the 13th Rajputs, who proceed to Agra. The 8th Rajputs come to Hongkong to replace the 105th Mahrattas, who proceed to Poona. The 12th Baluchis, now at Quetta, will relieve the 76th Punjabis at Tientsin, and the 6th Jats at Jansi will take the place of the 99th Infantry at Singapore.

WE ("The Japan Daily Mail") stated in a recent issue that an agreement had been arrived at between the Chinese and the Japanese Commissioners with regard to the extension of the Peking-Hsinmintun Railway into the city of Mukden. The latest news published in Tokio is that the negotiations on this subject have received a check owing to the emergence of another matter which demands prior settlement. We are not informed what that matter is, nor do we gather, directly or indirectly, that it is connected with the Washington proposal.

In order to select five uta for the honour of reading before the Emperor and Court at the New Year Poetry Party held on January 18 the judges had to examine—or were supposed to examine—26,445 poems, all on the same subject—"the snow of the New Year." The proceedings consisted in reading, first the five supposed to be the best out of all this terrible mass of inanity—one each; then those composed by the Princes and Princesses of the Blood—twice each; then that composed by the Empress—three times; and, finally that composed by the Emperor—five times.

A SMART capture, which will probably lead to the disorganization of at least one of the gangs of armed robbers which have of late infested the Settlement, was made on Monday in North Honan Road. A constable made an attempt to arrest three men whom he suspected to be members of a gang of robbers and called a Chinese civilian to his aid. He was successful in arresting one of the gang, but when another produced a sheath knife, the civilian, thinking discretion the better part of valour, allowed his covey to escape. As a result, however, of the capture of one of the gang, information has been obtained which will probably lead to the arrest of others, or at any rate put a temporary stop to their depredations.

THE forty-third issue of the Japan Directory, 1910, has been published by the "Japan Gazette" Company, Yokohama, and as usual the volume is filled with information making it a necessity to business houses and others having relations with Japan. In addition to lists of foreign and Japanese firms there are lists of foreign residents in Japan, a Yokohama Ladies' List, plans of Yokohama and Kobe, particulars of the Government Departments and Services, personnel of the Embassies, Legations,

Consulates, a large amount of information with regard to the Imperial Family, Government, Religious Societies, Post offices, the Japanese and foreign naval squadrons in the Far East etc. The volume, which contains about six hundred pages is strongly bound.

THREE EMPTY HOUSES BURNT.

At about four o'clock yesterday morning, a fire broke out in an empty house in Avenue Road. The Brigade was quickly on the scene, but the flames had a strong hold, and they were not extinguished before three houses were completely burnt out. The cause of the fire is not known.

FEEING THE DOCTOR.

A Tokio message to the "Mainichi" asserts that three Koreans arrived at Shimonoseki on the 11th and left for Tokio on the 13th for the purpose of assassinating Dr. Kikuchi, the President of the Taihan Hospital, Seoul, who has just returned to Tokio. They are said to be aggrieved against him because he saved the life of the Korean Prime Minister after the recent attempt by a friend of theirs to assassinate him.

SUPPOSED FEMALE THIEF.

A native woman was before the Mixed Court on Monday morning charged with having been in possession of six silver hair pins, a gold hair pin and other jewellery and \$20 Mex., part of the proceeds of a robbery at Zanzoh. Detective Sergeant Thygeson stated that the accused was arrested on certain information received. It was understood that her husband was in the custody of the native authorities, and he asked for a remand in order that further inquiries may be made. The request was granted.

CAMPOR TRADE IN FORMOSA.

The "Jiji" notes that, the export of camphor from Formosa having much increased of late, the Formosan Government deems it necessary to increase the output of the product and has decided to extend the maximum limit of the production of camphor and camphor oil for the coming fiscal year to 5,000,000 *kin* and 5,500,000 *kin* respectively. The share of each producer has duly been notified to him. Taking the camphor to be obtained from camphor oil at 40 per cent, the total output for the coming fiscal year will be 7,200,000 *kin*.

A COMET OBSERVED LOCALLY.

The Director of the Sicawei Observatory courteously informs us of the observation of a new comet locally. This, he believes, is not Halley's comet, though whether it is the one discovered by the Johannesburg Observatory seems to be uncertain. In any event it is moving very rapidly and it would be unsafe to say for how long it will be visible. It was observed first at 6.30 o'clock on Tuesday evening, but may have been visible previously, clouds and thick weather having militated against observations. Persons interested might,

however, watch the heavens in the South-West in the vicinity of Venus as soon as it gets dark.

The Director of Sicawei Observatory kindly informs us that this comet whose position does not agree with the track of that of Halley, was observed on the evening of the 25th, about 15° ahead of Venus and near the Equator. Its course seems to be fast and its variations exceedingly rapid, whereas the tail appeared to be 10° to 12° long, and the nucleus might have the apparent diameter of Venus, but not so bright.

A number of persons endeavoured to find the new comet, in some instances with success. It is a white luminous body with the tail projecting towards the zenith. Although it is distinct enough it takes finding and it may be of interest to readers to know that it was to be observed from the Public Gardens between 6 o'clock p.m. and 6.30.

AN ECHO OF THE EARTHQUAKE.

Our Chefoo correspondent writes, under date January 14: I see by Monday's "North China Daily News" that the earthquake affected Shanghai more than it did Chefoo. I was awakened by the shaking of the bed, then after an interval of a few seconds the bed lurched, the windows shook, and the door opened of its own accord. The earthquake was experienced here at about ten minutes to eleven, and I see that the paper gives the exact time at Shanghai as 10.51 odd seconds. Thus it is clear that the earthquake had a far wider range than the authorities at Sicawei imagined. During the last few years, we have had several shocks, apparently local.

SUPPOSED STOLEN SEED.

Four females were before the Mixed Court on Monday charged with having been concerned together with others not in custody, in stealing five bags of Sesamum seed, the property of Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd. on January 23. Inspector Mellows of the River Police, stated that the accused were found in possession of the seed on board their boats. The bags were marked Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., but the accused refused to state how they became possessed of them. One of the accused had already had five charges of stealing preferred against her. A remand was granted in order to allow a check to be made of the shipment of seed. They were brought before the Court again on Wednesday morning, when each was sentenced to one month's imprisonment. The Court ordered that the boat on which the seed was discovered, be destroyed.

CHINA IN PARLIAMENT.

The adherents of both parties in any way connected with the Far East will be ready to congratulate Mr. Gershom Stewart on winning the Wirral constituency in the Unionist cause. Mr. Stewart only severed his connexion with Hongkong a few years ago; he was at one time with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and subsequently became a member of Legislative Council. He will be remembered as a brilliant

speaker, and he will bring to the House of Commons an accurate knowledge of Chinese affairs and first-hand acquaintance with British interests in the Far East. Mr. William Keswick, it will also be noted, has been returned again for Epsom.

COUNTERFEIT DOLLARS.

Five excellent imitations of dollars were on view at the Mixed Court recently. So like real dollars were they that shopkeepers were induced to exchange them for small money. It was explained that the accused then before the Court was found in possession of three of them and that he had uttered two others. As an experiment, Inspector Morrison sent the dollars out to local shopkeepers to see whether they could detect that they were counterfeit, but each one of them failed to discover that they were spurious. The shopkeepers were astonished to learn that they could have been victimized. The accused said that only one of the dollars was his. He was sentenced to two weeks' imprisonment, and the Court ordered that the coins be destroyed.

THE RESIDENCY-GENERAL OF KOREA.

The failure of the Residency-General administration will be exposed to a severe attack by the Seiyukai in the Diet, says the "Hochi Shimbu." Officials of the Residency-General are divided into two factions, and the strife between them has long been notorious. It was through this factional strife that Mr. Tsuruhara resigned his post in the Residency-General, and now that he occupies a leading position in the Seiyukai Party he is the chief reporter of all matters about the corruption of the Residency Government and has even supplied the headquarters of the party with materials for attacking the Government. The interpellation on the question to be taken up by the Seiyukai will therefore prove a hard nut for the Government to crack.

AN OLD "CHINA HAND."

The death of Daniel Potter, at the patriarchal age of 92, speaks well for the climate of China, remarks the "London and China Express." The deceased dates back to very early times of Anglo-Chinese relations. He represented the firm of Dirom, Gray and Co., Canton, and Smith, Kennedy and Co., Shanghai, when the port was opened in 1843. The history of those stirring times will be well known to our readers, when fortunes were made (and lost) with greater rapidity than in the days of steam and electricity. The deceased came home in the middle '50's, and carried on successfully merchant business until his retirement later to Great Missenden, Bucks., where he resided many years, and was much respected. He moved later to London, where his decease was announced on November 16.

ALLEGED GANG OF ROBBERS.

Nineteen natives were before the Mixed Court on the 21st instant charged with having been concerned with others not in custody and two others who were

in the custody of the City Police, in feloniously robbing a house at Zangzoh and stealing the sum of \$2,000 and 12,000 one cent pieces; further, with having robbed from a boat on a creek near Zangzoh \$373 on December 16, 1909. According to the evidence one of the accused was arrested in a teashop by a native detective, who had received certain information from a friend. The accused admitted that he had served a sentence of four years for highway robbery. As the result of further inquiries the accused implicated the other accused before the Court, who, in turn admitted several robberies at Zangzoh, which is about twelve miles beyond Soochow. Dissension was caused among the rank and file because the leader of the gang absconded with most of the plunder, and this led to one of them communicating with the police. At this stage the police were granted a remand to enable them to make further inquiries.

A MIDNIGHT CHASE.

At about midnight on the 21 instant Constable Curtain saw a native carrying a bundle along Balfour Road. His suspicions were aroused, and he questioned the man. The Chinese threw the package to the ground and ran. Constable Curtain followed and soon captured him. On returning to the spot where the captive had been interrogated, it was found that the bundle contained about \$150 worth of silver-ware. Inquiries were made, and it was learnt that it was the property of Mr. F. M. Brooks, of 21 Yuenmingyuen Road. The prisoner was a former employee, and it was presumed that he had gained access to that portion of the house where the silver was, by means of a duplicate key that he had failed to hand over when he left Mr. Brooks's employ. It may be remembered that on Wednesday night a small fire broke out at Mr. Brooks's residence, and it is now supposed that the burglar started the fire with the idea of stealing under cover of the confusion that would naturally follow. Fortunately, the outbreak was a small one, and was quickly extinguished.

CHINESE BANKS.

The following letter, dated January 19, reaches us from a Chinese correspondent in Nagasaki:—

Dear Gentlemen,—Herewith little words please you printing on your newspaper with many thanks.

I beg respectfully to inform our Chinese Brothers as I am a small merchant in Japan about ten years, I am saving a few hundred dollars as depositing on the———Bank, but the Bankrupted about nearly eight months there is no date will be settle. I hoping all our Brothers must be drawing all moneys from any of Chinese Banks, because there is no strong one but you can see the———Bank's Directors Mr.———Taotai so great famous on Shanghai, while the Bankrupted he is nothing for arranged for Banks matter, so I think must be drawing all money which we have, to deposit on very stronger Banks as Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Chartered Bank

and Yokohama Specie Bank, and etc., etc., I hope all Brothers must do so as soon as possible

* * While sympathizing with our correspondent, we cannot endorse his generalization on all Chinese Banks based on his own unfortunate experience.—Ed.

ALLEGED THEFT OF A LEDGER.

At the Mixed Court on Wednesday afternoon, before Mr. Li (Assistant Magistrate) and Mr. Hadley (American Assessor), three natives were charged with having been concerned in the theft of a ledger, the property of Mrs. Barchet. Mrs. Barchet said that the accused were the only persons in the house when the book was missed. The book contained records of land title deeds, lease papers, records of loans, debts, etc. Mrs. Trevor Smith told the Court that she saw the late Dr. Barchet wrap the book up and place it in his safe. On three nights in succession after the death of Dr. Barchet, she heard noises in the room below her and shouted out. She recognized two of the voices as those of the cook and the coolie (both before the Court) and they were talking about the missing book. They said that they would not say anything about the book for \$5, \$10, or \$20. They needed \$30 before they would tell where it was. The Magistrate examined the coolie, and offered to release him if he would say where the book was. The coolie denied all knowledge of its whereabouts, and so did the other two accused. The case was remanded until the next day. Bail was not allowed.

YOUTHFUL BURGLARS.

Two boys named Sun Sieu, aged fourteen, and Lee Sin Koo-tse, aged fifteen, were charged at the Mixed Court on Monday with having been concerned with a man not in custody in breaking into and entering premises No. 34 Yuhang Road on January 22, and stealing therein gas-fittings valued at \$200; with having damaged the walls of the above house; with having broken into house No. 3 Thorne Road on January 11, and stealing therein wall and door fittings; further with having stolen stoves valued \$75. Mr. Solomon stated that he was the owner of one of the houses broken into, which was unoccupied, and he captured the accused in the house. Detective-Sergeant Reeves said that the accused had told him the name of the receiver of the property. As a result of inquiries he had learnt that the receiver was in the custody of the Chinese authorities. Witness asked the Court to give him a letter to the authorities requesting them to hand over the receiver, who was to be released that day. The accused, witness said, had sold the property before they were captured, and had returned to the house to remove goods that they had not been able to take away on their former visit. The necessary letter was handed to witness, and the accused were remanded until Wednesday. They were before the Court again on Wednesday, when they were each sentenced to one year's imprisonment.

The receiver of the property was sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

A SEA TRAGEDY.

A passenger on the Royal Mail str. Pembrokehire sends us, under date January 21, an account of a tragic scene he witnessed on the afternoon of January 16 in the Inland Sea. He writes:—We had just entered the Inland Sea; it was blowing "great guns," and it was bitterly cold. Suddenly the cry, "a wreck," was raised and, hurrying on deck we saw what closer inspection showed to be an overturned boat, and before our eyes one of the men relaxed his grip and sank. The air was icy and the sea too rough for us to lower a boat, but as the other two men still clung on, we manoeuvred until we had the overturned boat on our lee. Lifelines were thrown, and although they fell within the poor creatures' reach, they were too benumbed to hold them. A rope ladder was then lowered over our starboard bow, and some of the officers and the boat-swain descended to the rescue. There was imminent danger that they would be crushed between the wreck and the ship's side, but regardless of this, they tied ropes round the men, who were then hauled on deck. Everything was done to revive them, but, although artificial respiration was kept up for two hours, they both succumbed. There were three Japanese steamers at hand when we sighted the derelict, but they offered no assistance."

ALLEGED FORGED CHEQUE.

Tsang Pah-yung, was charged at the Mixed Court on the 21st instant with having obtained cargo to the value of \$330 from Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co., on January 6, by means of a false cheque. According to the evidence a coolie called at the office of the complainants and left a cheque purporting to be in payment for the goods of which delivery was desired. This cheque was made out in Chinese, and Mr. E. S. Little, who is a Chinese scholar, saw that the cheque was in order, to all appearances, but he failed to detect that it was a forgery. In exchange for the cheque the delivery order was obtained, but when the cheque was presented at the Bank, the deception was immediately noticed. In the meantime, however, possession of the goods had been obtained. The police were then notified, and as the result of their inquiries they found that the goods had been removed to one of the N.Y.K. wharves, from there another batch of coolies, evidently with a view to baffling pursuit, took them to a house in the French Concession. The lessee of the house, however, refused to allow himself to be drawn into the affair, so he declined to find accommodation for the goods. They were then removed to the Railway Station, where they were traced by the police. The case was adjourned until Tuesday.

ALLEGED ARSON.

At the Mixed Court yesterday morning before Magistrate Wong and Mr. F. W. Hadley (American Assessor) Wong Yang-szs, a woman, and Soo

Zung-hyung, were charged with being concerned together with another person not in custody in feloniously setting fire to dwelling-house No 343 Chengtu Road and thereby endangering life and property.

Det-Inspector McDowell stated that there were many curious points in this case and if the Court could find it convenient to visit the scene of the fire, matters could be more easily explained. The policy was issued at 4 p.m. on the 25th instant and it was for Tls. 700 in a Chinese Company. The fire took place the following morning. The woman charged lived in the centre of a block of houses, the other houses in the block being unoccupied and uninsured. The woman stated that she was in the house at the time the fire took place, that she was awakened by the crackling and escaped by the front door together with an aged amah. On the arrival of the police the front door and the back door were boarded up and force had to be used to open them.

The Court decided to visit the scene of the fire on Monday afternoon. Accused were released on cash bail of Tls. 700 each.

THE PRESS AND THE STATE.

A telegram from Ottawa, dated December 8, says: At no period in the history of Canada has the need of a fuller and impartial telegraphic service from the Motherland to the Press of the Dominion been more felt than it is at present. The Canadian Associated Press, which is subsidized by the Dominion Parliament and which maintains a correspondent in London, does not pretend to mirror events, but confines itself almost exclusively to Canadian affairs. For one of the most momentous elections in British history the Canadian Press, with the exception of "The Montreal Star" has to rely on New York for its general news service from Great Britain. The Canadian newspapers, within the past week, have been publishing columns of telegrams from England, via New York, which have been biased and prejudiced to such an extent against the Unionist party as to lead Canadians to believe that the electoral tide is running irresistibly against it. In order partly to remove the existing handicap from which Canadian newspapers are suffering, "The Montreal Star" proposes greatly to amplify its news service during the election campaign, and to-day it is announced that "The Toronto Globe" has sent a special correspondent to England to watch political events.

EXTORTION BY CHINESE POLICEMAN.

At the Mixed Court yesterday Tsu Ah-sun, native police constable No. 177, was charged with extorting the sum of \$1 from the complainant under colour of his office at 2 p.m. on the 26th instant; further with extorting the sum of \$1 from another complainant on the 24th instant.

Inspector Bourke said that the accused's duty was to take charge sheets to and from the Station and the Mixed

Court. The previous day at the Court a mafoo was fined \$1. This police constable went to the Astor block to collect the money, but he received \$2. On returning to the station accused paid in \$1 and pocketed the other. Later the mafoo called at the station and complained that he had only been fined \$1 by the Court, whereas he had been forced to pay \$2. When accused heard that inquiries were being made, he returned to the Astor block and, finding the mafoo, paid him back \$1. Suspicion had rested on accused for some time, but it had been impossible to catch him in the act. The second charge was of extorting \$1 from a man who had been fined that amount for breach of the Garbage Regulations. Accused told this man that as he had two numbers on his shop he would have to pay \$2.

In reply to the Court, accused admitted that he received \$2 from the mafoo, but said that he received it by mistake and so returned \$1.

The Court sentenced accused to three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

OBITUARY.

News of the death, at Hamburg, on Thursday, of Mr. Nicolaus August Siebs will be received with great regret by the Shanghai and Hongkong communities. The intimate friends of Mr. Siebs, who was 69 years of age, had known for some time that he was ill and took great interest in reports as to his condition. Mr. Siebs was one of the old school of Far Eastern merchants and the younger generation at Shanghai knew little of him, although in Hongkong he was a familiar figure until about two years ago. He came out in 1863 to Ningpo and shortly afterwards joined the firm of Siemssen and Co. of Shanghai and Hongkong, in which firm he was still a partner at the time of his demise. Mr. Siebs lived in Hongkong and Shanghai for varying periods until 1894 when he went to the Crown Colony and remained until May 1908. He then returned to Europe on account of failing health. The late Mr. Siebs served on the Shanghai Municipal Council in 1891 and he was very popular in this cosmopolitan community. In Hongkong he served on the board of directors of numerous companies and for several years he was on the Board of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Socially, Mr. Siebs was very popular, and was one of Hongkong's most prominent residents. During his forty-five years' residence in China he won for himself the respect of every community in which he lived, and his advice in business and other matters was frequently sought.

He leaves a widow, three sons and a daughter. One of his sons is in Hongkong and a second at Hankow.

THE COMET.

The following observations are kindly communicated to us by Sicawei Observatory:—On January 25 the comet was observed at Sicawei at 6 p.m. The tail was about 10° long, the

nucleus about the size, but not the brightness of Venus. Its position was nearly 15° ahead of Venus, and the declination not far from O°. The comet appears to move very quickly and is far from the track calculated for Halley's Comet.

On January 26 Sicawei notes that the comet was still visible to the west, about one hour ahead and a little W.N.W. of Venus.

A telegram from the Peking correspondent of "The Peking and Tientsin Times" dated January 21, states:

Thousands of people in Peking watched the Halley (?) Comet for nearly two hours this evening. In bright twilight this truly glorious heavenly body hung head downwards in the sky. A magnificent sight it was, its great shining tail straightly reaching far above it, until lost in outer space. Its brilliance dimmed the glowing sunset, and the beating of gongs and cymbals in the temples, the prayers of the priests and people, made even to the foreigner a fitting accompaniment to the sight of this wonderful creation. The thought uppermost in the minds of the watchers was: What will happen? The prognostications of M. Flammarion and other scientists are on every lip, and the blazing brilliancy and proximity of the comet brought them home to us. Like a great pillar of light the comet fell through space towards the West and it was not until the sun had gone that it passed out of sight.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE.

INVESTITURE OF OFFICERS.

The following is a list of the Officers appointed for the ensuing year for the District Grand Lodge of Northern China. They were invested at the Regular Meeting, held on Saturday, January 22, by Rt. Wor. Bro. Ivy, District Grand Master:—

Wor. Bros. W. C. Murray, Northern of China, D.D.G.M.; H. J. Clark, Northern of China, D.S.G.W.; M. B. J. Strom, Northern Star, D.J.G.W.; A. J. Walker, Northern of China, D. G. Chaplain; C. J. F. Symons, Tuscan, D. G. Chaplain; J. H. Longhurst, Royal Sussex, D. G. Treasurer; J. C. Carter, Royal Sussex, D. G. Registrar; P. H. B. Kent, Coronation, President of D. Board of General Purposes; C. H. P. Hay, Northern of China, D. G. Secretary; M. E. H. Wells, Tuscan, D.S.G.D.; W. E. Wade, Union, D.J.G.D.; G. D. Bidwell, Coronation, D. G. Snp. of Works; L. E. P. Jones, Northern of China, D. G. Direc. of Cers.; J. W. Steele, Daintree, D. Asst. G. Direc. of Cers.; J. McDowell, Royal Sussex, D. G. Sword Bearer; J. F. Newman, Doric, D. G. Std. Bearer; H. B. Ching, Daintree, D. G. Std. Bearer; J. Waddell, Northern of China, D. G. Organist; G. H. Charlton, Northern of China, D. G. Asst. Secretary; W. Herbert, Royal Sussex, D. G. Pursuivant; A. Anderson, Northern Star, D. Asst. G. Pur.; W. A. Davis, Union, D. G. Steward; E. Sanstedt, Far Cathay, D. G. Steward; J. Tuxford, Doric, D. G. Steward; G. Bloom,

Tongshan, D. G. Steward; P. D. Crawlas, Daintree, D. G. Steward; E. Kale, Royal Sussex, D. G. Steward; and J. Gould, D. G. Tyler.

THE CHINCHOW-AIGUN RAILWAY.

In view of the telegram from our Peking correspondent, published in this issue the following extract from "The Japan Daily Mail" of January 14, is of interest: The latest news on this important subject is published by the "Jiji Shimpo" from its Peking correspondent. He alleges that the opposition hitherto offered by the Minister of Finance to the employment of foreign capital in building the line has been withdrawn, and the charter may now be said to have been virtually granted. The proposed road is 750 miles long, and the capital required is fifty million Mexican dollars. Of course, it is exceedingly doubtful whether Russia will permit the extension of the line from Tsitsihar to Aigun; but apparently the syndicate negotiating the affair is prepared to proceed, even though the terminus be at Tsitsihar. The provisions of the charter are said to contain a clause by which Japan will be entitled to furnish a portion of the materials on equal terms with the other signatories. Nothing is said as to the security which the foreign capitalists would require. The natural course would be for them to accept a lien on the line itself and its accessories, but that would hardly be satisfactory in the face of the fact that the enterprise is not supposed to have the least chance of paying even its operating expenses, for several years to come at all events. If, therefore, the line is built with foreign money, the Chinese Government will have to give security. But the Chinese Government cannot possibly become financial sponsor for such enterprises unless its whole system of taxation is changed, and many people consider it extremely problematical whether the Manchu Government is capable of really centralizing the nation's finances.

THE INDIAN WITNESS.

The Acting Assistant Judge (Mr. A. Lindsey Smith) is experiencing the same difficulty that confronts all officials in India when Indians are called upon to give evidence in Court. Yesterday a case was before him in which one Indian sought to recover from another the sum of \$130, which the plaintiff alleged that he had lent to the defendant. The defence was a complete denial of the charge; and it was further stated that the defendant lent the money to the plaintiff. During the hearing of the case the plaintiff in his evidence said that he had lent the money to the defendant, and produced receipts for goods he had sold in order to raise the necessary amount. His Lordship having heard the denial from defendant's Counsel, asked the witness whether he would solemnly swear that the amount was advanced by him to the defendant. The defendant swore that it was. A witness for the defence was called; but before he gave his evidence his Lordship said that as far as he could see the case

must end in one side or the other being prosecuted for perjury. The witness, he said, must understand that he was there to speak the truth. He was not to let any feelings of friendship sway him. If the witness had gone there to tell lies, he would probably find that he would see the inside of the Consular Gaol. His Lordship continued, that in all the Indian cases that he had tried in Shanghai, one side or the other must have committed perjury; but he was determined to put a stop to it. "Now," his Lordship concluded, "let us start fair." This witness gave his evidence, and stated that he saw the defendant pay the money over to the plaintiff. When told that the plaintiff had said the opposite, the witness replied that the plaintiff would say anything for \$2. Later on the plaintiff intimated that if he had \$50 he could obtain one hundred witnesses. His Lordship said that he hoped that that was not true.

ORGAN RECITAL AT UNION CHURCH.

Counter attractions and the biting cold resulted in a smaller audience than Mr. Ernest Hall and the Union Church Choir ought to have secured for Monday night's programme of music. The Church was, however, more than half filled with appreciative listeners. The following works of modern English composition were presented by Mr. Hall in his usual masterly and accomplished style.

PROGRAMME.

1. Concert Overture.....A. Hollins.
2. Sursum Corda...Sir Edward Elgar.
3. The Question }...W. Wolstenholme.
- The Answer }
4. Andantino in D.....E. H. Lemare.
5. Oratorio. "A Song of Victory" Ferdinand Hiller.

Undoubtedly the gem of this programme was the exquisite temperamental musical study by Sir Edward Elgar and it lost nothing of sympathetic interpretation at the hands of Mr. Hall. The *Andantino* by Lemare has been heard too often recently in Shanghai to attract the attention its merit calls for. The organist of Union Church deserves thanks for this recital of modern works, short though it enforcedly was. The second half of the programme consisted of a rendering of Hillers' Oratorio "A Song of Victory." This is the second time the Union Church Choir has given this and the Oratorio is well worth the repetition. The Choir was affected by the absence of some of its members, but was nevertheless successful in its presentation of the work, some of the parts showing a distinct improvement over the last time of rendering. Chorus No 3 "The heathen are fallen" was a very well balanced piece of work, as was the chorus "Mighty is our God." Mrs. J. J. Connell took the part of Soloist and was in excellent voice. A collection was taken during the recital on behalf of the Church Organ fund.

THE SUNDAY CONCERT.

It is a pleasure to be able to give unqualified praise, especially when the

subject of it is a thing so important as Brahms' C. minor symphony. Of this most beautiful work the final movement, *Adagio* and *Allegro non troppo*, formed the principal attraction in Sunday's programme at the Town Hall, and it is safe to say that the orchestra has never played better nor has [it been better conducted. The only quarrel that we might have is with the programme's analytical note on Brahms. Surely by this time the number of those who undervalue the worth of this composer's contribution to music is insignificant, in influence, if not in numbers? And we find no mention of that quality (assuredly born not made) in which Brahms is possibly unrivalled, namely rhythm. It is perfectly correct, of course, to say that his music is not at first easily grasped. For that we must hold responsible the loftiness of his ideals on which the programme rightly insisted. But surely there is that about his music which tempts the least experienced music-lover to seek for the key, and once that key is found the treasure-house is inexhaustible. This was certainly the feeling in the Town Hall on Sunday. Probably the vast majority of listeners were hearing the symphony for the first time; but it was heard with evident enjoyment, and ended in enthusiastic applause. Partly, no doubt, this was due to the orchestra's beautiful playing, its fine light and shade and admirable *ensemble*; and to Herr Buck's reading, equally scholarly and sympathetic. But in any case, Brahms has made a deep impression and it is sincerely to be hoped that the symphony will appear again while that impression is fresh. The orchestra was altogether in a happy mood. Cowen's "English Dances" were very prettily interpreted; and the ever popular "Hänsel and Gretel" was all that could be desired. But it is the Brahms that will mark Sunday of all days in the season.

To go to another, though cognate and very urgent topic. May we plead that the Town Hall be properly warmed? The most glowing enthusiasm may be chilled by cold extremities; and on Sunday afternoon the temperature of the hall was really arctic.

THE CHINA SQUADRON.

The Admiralty announces the following appointments to ships on the China Station:—

Captain G. C. Cayley, to the Minotaur, to date January 1, and on recommissioning, to date January 4, and as flag captain, to date January 25. Lieutenants—H. R. Moore (N.), and H. H. Harwood, to the Bramble on recommissioning; M. L. Clarke, to the Britomart (N.); B. G. Washington, to the Edgar, additional to date January 18, and to the Bramble in command, on recommissioning; M. B. Baillie-Hamilton, to the Edgar, additional, to date January 18, and to the Thistle, in command, on recommissioning; T. J. S. Lyne, to the Kinsha, in command on recommissioning; C. P. Ventris, to the Edgar, additional to date January 18, and to the Thistle (N.) on recommissioning, to date January 4; E. H. Donovan, to the Edgar (1st), to date

January 18, and to the Britomart, in command, on recommissioning; H. J. G. Good, to the Edgar (G.), to date January 18, and to the Teal, in command, on recommissioning; J. M. Barker, to the Edgar, additional, to date January 18, and to the Snipe, in command, on recommissioning; B. R. Brooke, to the Edgar, additional, to date January 18, and to the Robin, in command; and E. J. J. Southby, to the Edgar, additional, to date January 18, and to the Sandpiper, in command. Sub-Lieutenants—F. W. S. Glead, to the Edgar, additional to date December 18, and to the Britomart, on recommissioning; D. J. Claris, to the Edgar, additional, to date January 18, and to the Thistle, on recommissioning; R. Harter, to the Edgar, additional, to date December 18, and the Kinsha, on recommissioning; J. W. O. Dalgleish, to the Minotaur, undated. Chaplain—The Rev. G. H. Hewetson, to the Minotaur, on recommissioning, to date January 4. Staff-Surgeon—J. Verdon, to the Kinsha, on recommissioning, undated; and W. P. Dyer, to the Edgar, for medical charge on voyage home, undated. Surgeons—W. H. Edgar, M.B., to the Snipe, G. G. Vickery, M.B., B.A., to the Britomart, B. R. Bickford, to the Thistle, A. J. MacDiarmid, M.B., to the Waterwitch, C. F. Bainbridge, M.B., to the Widgeon, R. P. M'Roberts, to the Teal, G. A. Jackson, M.B., B.A., to Woodcock, all additional, to date December 24, and on recommissioning; H. W. Nicholls, to the Moorhen, M. P. Fitz-Gerald, M.B., to the Robin, M. J. Laffan, M.B., B.A., to the Edgar, for duty on voyage out, to join at Gibraltar, to date December 24, and to the Bramble, on recommissioning, undated; and C. Rose, M.B., to the Woodlark, on recommissioning, undated.

Captain G. C. Cayley, who has been appointed to the Minotaur, the new flagship of the China Squadron, was appointed a cadet in January, 1880, was promoted lieutenant in 1890, commander in 1901, and captain just four years ago. He was a cadet of the battleship Monarch at the bombardment of Alexandria in 1882, and during the Egyptian war (medal with clasp and Khedive's star), and he was a lieutenant of the ill-fated battleship Victoria when she was rammed by her sister battleship Camperdown off Tripoli in the Mediterranean, June, 1893, when Admiral Sir George Tryon, twenty-one officers, and 350 men were drowned. Captain Cayley was latterly employed at the Royal Naval War College.

"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE."—If the blood is laden with impurities it spreads disease as it circulates through the organs of the human body—Lungs, Heart, Stomach, Kidneys, Brain. Clarke's World-famed Blood Mixture is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of all kinds, its effects are marvellous. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. Beware of worthless imitations and substitutes.—ADV'T.

LAW REPORTS.

H. M. SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, Jan. 22.

Before Sir HAVILLAND DE SAUSMAREZ, Judge.

C. H. GREEN AND THE INTERNATIONAL SKATING RINK, LD., v. D. H. O'DELL.

When this case was called, Mr. Oppe, who said that he appeared on behalf of shareholders and Mr. O'Dell, announced that the parties in this case had arrived at an agreement, subject to the consent of the Court. The agreement, was that both the plaintiff and the defendant retired from their positions as directors in this Company and, in view of the fact that there were no other properly appointed directors, asked the Court to appoint a Receiver to carry on the business of the Company until a proper directorate had been appointed by the shareholders, the meeting to take place as requisitioned on Monday. The Receiver's term of office would be short and counsel suggested that the present auditor of the Company, Mr. Thomson, should be appointed, if he would act as Receiver.

Mr. E. W. Godfrey said that he consented to this.

His Lordship—I should think that he would act; it is practically only to-morrow.

Mr. Oppe—And both parties pay their own costs.

His Lordship—What about the International Skating Rink, are there any costs? I suppose not.

Counsel said that they did not think there were.

Mr. Oppe—I am reminded by my friend that Mr. O'Dell while retiring from the directorate does not cease to be manager.

His Lordship—Oh no, I understand that.

Mr. Oppe then cited the following two authorities:—*Featherstone v. Cook* (16 Equity, p. 298) and *Trade Auxiliary Co. v. Vickers*—reported at the same place.

His Lordship—On what do I make this order? On the motion or in the case?

Mr. Oppe—By consent.

His Lordship—But on what?

Mr. Godfrey—On the motion.

His Lordship—It does not dispose of the case you see.

Mr. Godfrey—This action will be discontinued.

His Lordship—Is that part of the agreement?

Mr. Godfrey—Yes, my lord, I make it so.

His Lordship—Have you reduced this into writing?

Mr. Oppe—We have not done so.

His Lordship—Very well, I shall order it to be drawn up. I will read over my note to you to see that it is correct. "We have agreed, plaintiff and defendant, to retire from the directorate at once. The Court to appoint

a Receiver to carry on the business until a proper directorate is elected." I am quite willing to appoint Mr. Thomson. "The meeting to take place on Monday as called, each party to pay his own costs, the action to be discontinued with leave to apply." The order as prayed will be drawn up. The Court then rose.

Shanghai, Jan. 25.

Before LINDSEY SMITH, Esq., Acting Assistant Judge.

AMAR SINGH v. SARN SINGH.

This was a claim for \$100 money lent. When the defendant was asked if he owed the money to plaintiff he said that he did not know who he was.

The plaintiff stated that he was passing the corner of Foochow and Kiangse Roads one day when defendant, who was on police duty, said that he wanted to see him. Defendant asked him to loan him \$100 for a few days. He said that he had the money in the Bank, but the Superintendent would not allow him to draw so much out at one time, as he would think that defendant was helping some other men to go to America. Witness had known defendant for four or five months. He handed him the money on December 14 at a watchman's house in the French Concession just the other side of the Yangkingpang. Witness thought this watchman's name was Verham Singh. He was present at the time. As defendant could not write, another man wrote out the receipt produced and handed it to witness. Witness had not these witnesses at Court.

Defendant said that he knew nothing about the receipt.

His Lordship adjourned the case until Friday for the attendance of the necessary witnesses.

Defendant said that he was on duty at the time plaintiff alleged he handed him the money.

His Lordship said that defendant would have to prove this statement if he wished the Court to believe his story.

Shanghai, Jan. 26.

Before Sir HAVILLAND DE SAUSMAREZ, Judge.

YUEN SHU-HSUN, GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF THE LIANG KUANG v. WILLIAM BUTLER WRIGHT.

Mr. G. H. Wright appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. J. C. E. Douglas for the defendant.

There were two motions on file in this case. The first was dated January 21 and it was an application on the part of plaintiff for an order that in view of the defendant being represented by counsel in this Court the date of the return day of the writ of summons herein be fixed for a date prior to Wednesday, February 9, 1910, the date fixed by order of this Court dated January 14, 1910.

The second motion was by defendant and dated January 22. It was that on the hearing of an application on the defendant for an order that the order made herein on the *ex parte* application of the plaintiff and dated January 15, 1910, be set aside and that the balance

of the moneys now in the hands of His Majesty's Consul at Canton be paid out to the defendant.

This was the adjourned hearing of the two summonses. Mr. Douglas had filed a notice that the defendant would not proceed further with the summons taken out by him and dated January 22, 1910 and that the same was withdrawn.

Mr. Douglas said that he had put on the file a notice of discontinuance of the application made by him to set aside the order. The only question was whether there should be any earlier return day than February 9. He asked that it remain at that date as he had to get back his papers from Hongkong.

Mr. Wright did not oppose.

His Lordship said that there would be no order on either summons, and no costs.

Shanghai, Jan. 27.

Before Sir HAVILLAND DE SAUSMAREZ, Judge.

PAO KONG HONG v. D. SASSOON AND CO.

This was a claim for damages for non-delivery and detention by the defendants of goods deliverable to the plaintiffs by the defendants whereby the plaintiffs lost the value and price they would have received for the same on the market—Tls. 2,500.

Mr. H. P. Wilkinson appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr L. E. P. Jones for the defendants.

JUDGEMENT.

His Lordship delivered judgement as follows:—

The plaintiffs bought from the Chin Dah hong 550 bales of cotton yarn on the eleventh month of the 33rd year of Kuang Hsi, and in respect of part, namely 65 bales, received a Chinese document. The translation of the document is as follows:—

"No. 65. There have been deposited to-day,

Ten hank "Red Half Man", 25 bales,

Ten hank "Coloured Man", 40 bales.

To Messrs. Chin Dah.

This was chopped in two places, showing that a counterpart or counterfoil was kept by the defendants and that the goods had been verified in the godown.

This action is in respect of the 25 bales. The goods had been previously sold by the defendants, who had imported them, to Chin Dah. The course of business appears to be that the importer (in this case the defendants) imports goods and sells to a dealer in Shanghai who, after payment for the goods, gets a document issued to him. If he does not take delivery at once the goods remain in the godown of the vendor, at first for the convenience of the purchaser, but after a time against a payment of warehouse charges. There seems to be no doubt that the purchaser is entitled to take delivery of them at any time on payment of charges and on production of the document to which I have referred. In this case this course was followed save that the person who demanded these goods was not the original purchaser, but the plaintiff who

had bought from him. Both lots of 40 and 25 bales were delivered, but the 25 bales were subsequently returned to the defendants as they were water damaged.

The case has been tried without pleadings, the issues in the case having been settled by me. The defendants deny that the plaintiffs are holders for value of the aforesaid document, which means that they are not *bona fide* purchasers of the goods. The plaintiffs called Mee Tze-zung, their manager, who proved the purchase by his oath and by his books and there is no evidence on the other side except that of the defendants' godown keeper, who says that the delivery of these goods was made to an employee of Chin Dah and not on the production of the delivery order. He, however, when pressed admitted that he did not know the man who took delivery.

There is a suggestion that the plaintiffs and Chin Dah are one, but there is no evidence as to this and it is positively denied by the plaintiffs, and independent witnesses say that they know both as distinct honges.

The defendants further refuse to deliver these goods as they say they have a lien for unpaid purchase money and balance of account. The defendants' witnesses admit that the purchase money is paid, but it appears that a large balance is owing by Chin Dah to the defendants.

It is not necessary to go more fully into the evidence; I think it quite clear that the plaintiffs purchased these goods from Chin Dah, who had himself bought them from the defendants and paid for them. The defendants have refused to deliver them simply because Chin Dah owed them money on a general account. There have been one or two witnesses who have said that this was enough to entitle them to detain the goods, but it has not been suggested that this is a defence to the action, and I think rightly. The property in these goods passed to the plaintiffs, there is no lien for unpaid purchase money, as it has been paid; a lien for the balance of a general account is unknown to English law and has not been even alleged as a custom. It seems to me, therefore, that the defence fails entirely.

Another point, which was argued at considerable length, and to which a lot of evidence was led, was whether the document which I have read was a document of title within the meaning of the Factors' Act, 1889, as being a delivery order for the goods covered by it.

Of the evidence on this point the great preponderance was in favour of there being no unqualified right to refuse delivery, on the production of such a document as this, or the goods covered by it; and further that a holder for value on verifying the fact that the goods were in the godown would feel secure that no one else could take them away; but I could not get an absolutely straight and unqualified answer from even the best of the witnesses that this document had a certain and intelligible meaning. They were all inclined to hedge more or less.

My decision in this case has been delayed as it was agreed that I should obtain, if possible, confirmation of a statement of a witness that he represented the Cotton Yarn Guild. I have only had it two or three days. It is a letter from the Cotton Yarn Guild to the Mixed Court Magistrate which purports to be an answer to my request. I can only say of it that it is more vague than anything else in this case.

Now if this were a British community, such as that of Hongkong, on which a judgement of this Court would be binding, considerable advantage might accrue from a settlement of this point, but as this is a case in which all the witnesses as to this custom are Chinese, and the independent witnesses are mostly members of the Piece-Goods and Cotton Yarn Guilds, I am driven to consider whether the practice and opinions of individual members of a Guild would be endorsed by the Guild, and whether the practice of the Guild, which is quite independent of this Court, might not change to-morrow.

It is well known that matters of trade in China are settled by the Guilds and not by the decision of the Chinese Court, but I know not of any settled rules regulating the Guilds' decisions, and it would appear that it is rather by arbitration that they settle disputes. If it is the desire of Chinese so to conduct their business in their own country, I cannot see that the interference of an Extraterritorial Court can be useful or efficacious. It is almost impossible to read the practice of the Guilds and the Factor's Act together.

I do not forget that the defendants are British, but this dispute arises out of a branch of their business which is practically Chinese as opposed to foreign, and the custom which the Chinese plaintiffs seek to prove is a custom between Chinese. As, therefore, I can decide this case without deciding the exact value of this document, I do not propose to say more about it, merely remarking that were it a document such as is in ordinary use amongst foreigners, other considerations would apply.

The defendants have failed to show that they have a lien on these goods, and they must therefore deliver them to the plaintiffs or pay them their price.

Mr. Wilkinson asked for judgement for the amount on the writ—Tls. 2,500. He also asked his Lordship to give interest at the rate of eight per cent from the date of the refusal to deliver, June 27, 1908, as damages for detention. Counsel asked for the costs of the action, and, as the case took a long time and was of some importance, he requested that the costs be on a higher scale.

After hearing both counsel, his Lordship said:—It is difficult for me to say what the exact market value is at the present time, and, therefore, I shall assess the damages on the amount proved to have been the price of the goods, Tls. 1,850, plus a liberal amount of interest. Tls. 2,100 includes interest at just about eight per cent. Judgement for Tls. 2,100, costs to be taxed. No order for any special scale.

C. H. GREEN AND THE INTERNATIONAL SKATING RINK, LD. v. D.H.O. DELL.

When this case was called the Clerk announced that the parties did not appear.

The case was struck out.

CHOW YUNG-KEE v. JOHN CROMARTY.

This was a claim for Tls. 2,141 for work done and materials provided by the plaintiff for the defendant at his request. Plaintiff also claimed interest on Tls. 1,000 on the above-mentioned from September 1, 1909, and on Tls. 1,141 from December 28, 1909.

Mr. R.E. Gregson appeared for the plaintiff. Defendant appeared in person.

Mr. Gregson said that this was the return day of the writ. He understood that the defendant had a defence and he asked for that defence to be filed.

Defendant said that his defence was that he paid the money except the final instalment, which he withheld on the architect's advice until such time as certain repairs were made. That instalment was Tls. 705. He claimed to be entitled to withhold this sum until the contractor made good the defects on the buildings.

His Lordship said that defendant must put the defects into writing.

Defendant said that there was a claim for several things that plaintiff said had

STONE IN THE KIDNEY.

AGONISING BLADDER DISORDERS.

Mr. James Moss resides at 65, Brace Street, Walsall, England, and is highly respected. Speaking of his terrible suffering from stone in the kidney—one of the most agonising of all diseases—he says:—"I have passed three stones as large as a good-sized pea, and I have often gone over a day without passing kidney secretions."

"I suffered over a year, and have had to keep to my bed a fortnight at a time."

"There were cruel pains in my back and loins, and the secretions were thick and not clear. The agony I suffered when passing the kidney stones is beyond description; it utterly exhausted me, and left me unfit for anything."

"I have kept quite clear of kidney complaint ever since my cure by Doan's Backache Kidney Pills, about which I first told you 3 years ago. I am able to keep to my work regularly—I never lose a minute, and what is more, my work does not wear me out like it used to. There is no urinary trouble at all, and my back is so strong that I am able to enjoy a 20-mile walk."

"I take this opportunity of heartily thanking you for the great benefit I have received from your Doan's Backache Kidney Pills."

Doan's Backache Kidney Pills are two shillings and ninepence per box (six boxes for thirteen shillings and ninepence). Of all chemists and stores or post free, direct from Foster-McClellan Co., No. 9 Siking Road, Shanghai.

been done, but he did not know about it and this must be settled between the architect and the contractor as this work was outside the contract. Defendant declined to pay for this work until he got a certificate from the architect that he should pay.

His Lordship said that defendant must send a list of the defects to Mr. Gregson, and the case would come on for trial in due course.

Mr. Gregson said that questions of law might arise.

His Lordship made a note of the defence stated by defendant, that there would be no pleadings, questions of law arising out of the facts in dispute might be raised; a list of the defects alleged by the defendant to be furnished by him and also particulars of the payments he had made, within one week.

Before LINDSEY SMITH, Esq., Acting Assistant Judge.

CHARAJ DIN P. ABDUL RAHMAN.

Plaintiff's claim was for \$130, being an amount alleged to have been paid to the defendant on behalf of the plaintiff.

Mr. J. E. Salmon appeared for the defendant; plaintiff was not represented.

Plaintiff said that he was a tailor, and that he had known the defendant for about a year. Witness lent the defendant \$130 with which to procure a ticket for America. Witness accompanied the defendant to the Steamship Co. The clerk there issued a receipt for the money, pending the issuing of a ticket. The defendant took the receipt from witness's clothes while he was asleep. Witness did not miss the receipt until some days later. Witness then proceeded to the Pacific Mail Office. The Indian interpreter there told witness that the defendant had collected the money. Witness swore solemnly that the money deposited with the Pacific Mail was his own.

In cross-examination by Mr. Salmon, witness intimated that he thought the interpreter in the P. M. S. Co. was in league with the defendant; otherwise the company would not have paid the money over to the defendant.

A. A. Macdonald, assistant clerk in the Supreme Court, said that the defendant called on him, and wanted to settle the case. Witness replied that they would have to pay \$3 for discontinuing the proceedings. They spoke to each other in their own language for awhile, but left without saying anything more about the matter. They seemed to disagree regarding the payment of the \$3.

Plaintiff (recalled) said that defendant stated that he would pay witness the amount before the Court. Defendant had the money with him. It was because defendant refused to pay the money that witness and defendant left the Court.

W. R. Strickland, Chief Clerk of the Supreme Court, remembered the plaintiff and the defendant calling on him and intimating that they wished to settle the case. Witness told them that the full amount could be paid, or the proceedings could be discontinued, for which

a fee of \$3 would be charged. As they did not seem inclined to adopt either course, witness sent them away.

Futta Dingh for the defence, said that he saw the defendant lend the plaintiff some money. Witness swore that the money paid to the Steamship Co., belonged to the defendant. Witness added that the plaintiff would swear anything for \$2.

Another witness said that he lent money to the defendant, who wished to pay the plaintiff's fare to America.

The case was adjourned until Wednesday morning in order to allow further evidence to be called.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

RE T. W. BOWERN.

PUBLIC EXAMINATION OF THE DEBTOR.

The public examination of the debtor was concluded.

Mr. G. H. Thomson, the Receiver, stated that at a meeting of creditors held on Wednesday afternoon he was appointed Trustee. A resolution was passed at the meeting requesting that application be made to the Court to adjudge the debtor bankrupt.

His Lordship declared the examination closed and adjudged the bankrupt.

H. M. POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, Jan. 21.

Before G. W. KING, Esq., Police Magistrate.

S. M. P. F. ISSAR SINGH.

Issar Singh, a watchman, was charged with being drunk and creating a disturbance on North Soochow Road at 6.15 p.m. on the 20th instant. He was further charged with assaulting Sikh P. C. No. 435 whilst in the execution of his duty at the same time and place.

Inspector Chilver appeared for the police.

From the evidence it appeared that the assault on the constable consisted in taking him by the coat and kicking him on the right leg. The constable found the accused and complainant quarrelling in the roadway. Accused, who was drunk, refused to go to the Station, whereas the Chinese was quite willing to do so. In the charge room at the station accused made a rush at the Indian constable.

His Worship, in sentencing accused to seven days' imprisonment without the option of a fine, said that he had told Indians before that when they got drunk and interfered with men on duty it meant imprisonment.

Shanghai, Jan. 27.

Before G. W. KING, Esq., Police Magistrate.

REX (S. M. P.) V. TAKAL SINGH.

Takal Singh, an Indian constable, was charged with having wilfully disobeyed the lawful command of his superior officer by refusing to parade and proceed on duty at 11 p.m. on January 24 at Yangtzepoo Police Station, contrary to King's Regulation No. 1, of 1906.

Inspector Aiers appeared to prosecute; Captain Barrett was also present. Sergeant Campbell said that Indian Sergeant No. 241 reported to him that the accused had refused to parade for

duty. Witness accompanied the sergeant to the accused's room. There, witness told the accused through the interpreter to resume duty, but the accused refused. The accused was then locked up.

Indian Sergeant No. 241 said that he and Sergeant Campbell went to accused's room, where they found him lying on the bed. The foreign Sergeant, through witness, told the accused that he had better go on duty. Accused refused, and added that he had been locked up once and that they could do what they liked with him.

Inspectors Aiers said that the accused was discharged from gaol on January, 24, and was due to resume duty at eleven o'clock that night. The accused had been told that he was to resume duty. Witness heard no complaints that the accused was sick.

The accused, who was weeping freely asked his Worship to take his uniform away from him, and send him out of Shanghai. Accused's excuse for refusing duty was because he had previously been sent to gaol. Accused had not received the extra pay to which he was entitled. Accused had resigned three times.

Captain Barrett said that he would like to explain that the accused was not dismissed from the force after serving his sentence, because it would create a bad precedent. Others who wished to leave would adopt the same method. The accused had imagined that as soon as he came out of gaol, he would be able to leave the force.

His Worship to the Interpreter—Tell him that I think that his conduct has been very deliberate in this instance. His statements show that he does not want to remain in the Police Force, and that he is determined to get out of it by some means or other. It has been clearly shown that he committed a breach of the regulations by refusing to go on duty. He has been punished for this offence once, and he knew what the result would be if he continued with that conduct. All the men in the Force have been warned. The first men were treated leniently. The accused will have to go to prison for three months with hard labour. I will have a report by the doctor on his state of health. If the doctor says that he cannot perform hard labour, that part of the sentence will not be enforced. Tell him that I shall further have to report this to the Judge to see whether any sentence of deportation will be considered and carried out.

THE TAOTAI'S APPEAL COURT.

Jan. 12, 1910.

Before H. E. TSAI NAI-HUANG, Taotai of Shanghai, and Sir Pelham L. WARREN, H. B. M.'s Consul-General.

CHUN WO BISMARCK AND FONG WEI-CHING V. WOO CHIN NAN.

This was an appeal by the plaintiffs from a judgement of the Mixed Court

dated July 19, 1909 in favour of the defendant.

Mr. F. M. Brooks appeared for the appellants and Mr. T. Morgan Phillips for the respondent.

The plaintiffs claimed to be the owners of a stevedore's business at Dalny established to carry on the stevedore work of the Chinese Eastern Railway at that port, from the year 1902 until the outbreak of the war between Russia and Japan in February 1904, and that the defendant had appropriated to his own use the property of the business to the estimated value of \$100,000.

The case for the defendant was that the plaintiff Fong Wei-ching, at that time comproprietor to the Russo-Chinese Bank at Port Arthur was the sole proprietor of the business in 1902, but that by reason of financial difficulties he was unable to carry on the work, which was handed over to the defendant in January, 1903. As stated the judgement of the Mixed Court was in favour of the defendant. The following is a translation of the Taotai's judgement:

JUDGEMENT.

H.E. Tsai, the Taotai, of Shanghai, sitting with Sir Pelham L. Warren, H. B. M.'s Consul-General, on the appeal of Chun Wo Bismark v. Woo Chin-nan from the Mixed Court, Shanghai.

This is an appeal from a judgement of the Mixed Court dismissing the appellants' petition claiming for more than Tls. 100,000. The appeal was heard by H.E. the Taotai on the 2nd day of the 12th moon, 1st year of Huan Tung in conjunction with Sir Pelham L. Warren, H. B. M.'s Consul-General for Shanghai. The judgement of the Mixed Court was found to be fair and just which the parties shall abide by.

The appeal is hereby ordered to be dismissed. This is the judgement.

POSTHUMOUS NOTORIETY.

At the Mixed Court on Tuesday before Mr. Pao Yi (Magistrate) and Mr. J. F. das Chagas (Vice-Consul in charge of the Portuguese Consulate), Yang Shun-chu sought a perpetual injunction restraining the defendant, Woo May-chee, or his family or their servants or agents from performing the funeral rites in connexion with the burial of one Wong Yab-ching, or interfering or intermeddling in the same or the administration of her estate; for a further order that plaintiff be allowed to bury the deceased in accordance with her wishes, and administer the estate in accordance with her testamentary dispositions, subject to the supervision of the Court, if necessary.

Mr. J. C. E. Douglas appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. F. Ellis for the defendant.

Mr. Douglas outlined the evidence that he would call, and added that he wished to refute the improper motives that the other side had, by their actions, sought to cast upon the plaintiff.

Plaintiff stated that he took the deceased as his concubine. The docu-

ment produced was a receipt for the dower of \$2,000 that he paid over at the time. The defendant was a step-brother to the deceased, and lived with witness for some time. The deceased bore witness a son and a daughter. The latter had since died. The deceased after living with witness for about four years, left him. She took a quantity of clothing and jewellery with her. On November 20 last, some of deceased's friends asked witness to call and see the deceased who was on her death-bed. After some hesitation witness complied with the request, and took his son with him. The deceased handed to witness's son a ring, which she requested him to keep in memory of her. She asked to be allowed to die in witness's name. Witness gave his consent, and promised to look after her affairs on behalf of his son. Deceased also promised to bury the deceased in his ancestral grave. Deceased directed witness how to dispose of her property. There were witnesses to this disposition of the property. Deceased handed her keys over to his son, and asked witness to look after them. Deceased died at about 6.15 p.m. Deceased's brother disappeared for two days, but eventually returned in company with Inspector Mackintosh and Detective-Sergeant Craig. The defendant then accused witness of having interfered without having been invited. Witness called the people in the house to confirm his statement, but the defendant refused to accept their words, saying that the people were brought to the house by the witness. Witness denied defendant's allegation.

By Mr. Ellis—Witness had been in Shanghai over twenty years. Witness described himself as having been born of Chinese parents in Macao. Witness had been a Chinese subject when he was very young. Witness became a Portuguese subject about three years ago.

Mr. Douglas objected to the cross-examination as being irrelevant; the fact that a Portuguese Assessor was on the Bench should be sufficient to prove that witness had been registered at the Portuguese Consulate.

The Assessor upheld the objection.

By Mr. Ellis—Witness said that his son had not been registered as a Portuguese subject. Witness did not turn the deceased and his daughter out of his house. The daughter was about nine years old when she died. Witness had not seen the deceased prior to the day of her death for over ten years. Witness did not know how the deceased had spent her life after she left his house. A deed of separation between the deceased and witness had not been effected, although a Mr. King had tried to arrange something in this way. Witness did not know where the deceased obtained her property.

By the Assessor—Mr. Ellis said that his case was quite simple. He denied that the deceased invited the complainant to visit her on her death-bed; that she ever gave complainant any testamentary or dying instructions, as complainant had alleged. The brother of the

deceased was the only person entitled to attend to the affairs of his sister.

By Mr. Ellis—Witness said there were over ten persons present when the deceased directed witness regarding the disposition of her property.

Mr. Ellis concluded his cross-examination, and the Court rose until 2 p.m. next-day.

On Wednesday, when the case was continued Plaintiff's son said that he was twelve years' old. As far as witness could remember he had always lived with his father. Witness remembered being taken by his father in November last to see his mother, who gave him a ring. She called him her son.

Wong Zung-ti stated that he was a contractor. Witness knew the deceased. Some time ago witness heard that the deceased was ill. On the day that deceased died, witness's wife was called to see the deceased. Witness asked the plaintiff to go to the deceased, as she had requested that he be sent to her. He then described what took place at the bedside, which corroborated the evidence given by the plaintiff in this connexion.

By Mr. Ellis—Witness knew that the deceased had some money. She had deposited over \$1,600 with witness. Against this the deceased had a contra account with witness, in which she was indebted to witness in the amount of over \$1,500. The deceased did not protest against the plaintiff going into her room, saying that it was Woo's house, and that so plaintiff had no right there. Witness had known the defendant (Woo May-chee) since he was twelve years old. As far as witness knew defendant had always been supported by his sister—the deceased.

Two female witnesses corroborated the evidence already given.

This concluded the case for the prosecution, and the Court adjourned until two p.m. the next day.

On Thursday, when the case was continued—

Mr. Douglas said that he had an application to make to the Court. It was clear from the cross-examination of the plaintiff's witnesses that the defence would seek to show that this was a suit brought by Yang in order to get possession of the deceased woman's property. That was not so. It was a suit brought by Yang, on behalf of his son, for the son's right to bury his mother. He asked that the petition be amended to this effect.

The Assessor said that the Court would prefer to hear the defence before allowing the amendment.

Mr. Ellis addressed the Court for the defence. He said that on the surface the application of Yang on behalf of the son was a proper application, but it was counsel's duty to show what the real evidence was with regard to the wishes of the deceased, and as to her funeral rites, also as to what person should be treated as her son or heir, and as to the disposition of her property. It was admitted that the deceased was previously the concubine of the plaintiff, that they had two children and that they separated after four years. It was

important to consider what actually happened on the day the deceased died. The case for the defendant was that the story put forward by plaintiff was one which should not be accepted by the Court. The defendant would state that the deceased woman abandoned every intention of returning to the plaintiff, and that she never expressed any wish to see the plaintiff or even the son. Counsel hoped to satisfy the Court that before her death the deceased signed an agreement adopting, as her son, a son born to her brother, whose wife she had previously procured for him. In addition to this the deceased, after the agreement was made, insured her life in favour of the father of her adopted son. Mr. Ellis submitted that, according to Chinese law, the defendant was entitled to carry out the funeral rites of the deceased and the administration of her property.

Defendant was then called. He said that deceased was his elder sister. He had lived with her ever since he was seven years of age. During the early part of witness's life his sister provided him with money and made arrangements for his domestic happiness by finding him a wife. Witness had had two wives. His first wife died and his sister got him another one. By the first wife witness had a boy and a girl. His son was adopted by his sister some time in the 32nd year of Kuang Hsü. The adoption agreement was executed in the presence of witnesses. As soon as witness's son was born his sister insisted upon adopting it. Witness recognized the document.

"Adoption Agreement.—I, when young, did hastily and by mistake follow a man by the name of Yang, but he has since cast me aside; through the kind offices of a most respectable gentleman named King, who came forward on my behalf, a perpetual separation (with Yang) was arranged and settled. Since then, being alone, I was in a very pitiable condition and was again drifting like dust blown about by the wind. Luckily, through thrift during these years, I managed to make enough money to pay current expenses and I have made a pledge that I will nevermore follow any man i.e., with any-one as his concubine, but will try to keep quiet and be good. As time passes very quickly, I am of opinion that the most important matter is to have descendants to continue the line of descent. As I have no uncle nor relatives by marriage nor any elder members of the same family, but have only one younger brother of the same parent, named Woo May-chee, who the year previous had born to him a son named Woo King-pao, he (Woo King-pao) is to be adopted by me as my own son. If my younger brother has no other children in future this child, King-pao is to inherit both my and my brother's estate. Consequently, on the third day of this moon, whilst at the Peitsee Club in Hankow Road, in the presence of witnesses, this adoption agreement by me is given. I have personally executed the same and have handed it to my younger brother to keep. As to all my lands, houses and other

property, including clothing, jewellery and all other things of which I may be possessed, the same are to be handed over on my death to my adopted son King-pao for his own use, as a consideration for his wearing the sack-cloth for me and to carry on perpetually the memorial rites of the family. This matter has been agreed upon between myself and my younger brother and there is no force or coercion used on either side; in future no other outsider is to be allowed to fight or quarrel over this matter on any pretence whatsoever. As a proof is necessary for future reference, this document is written."

Witness was one of the parties to this agreement. His sister was doing business on her own account

TC CONQUER MALARIA.

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM A PHYSICIAN'S PEN.

"Those who conquer Malaria conquer the tropics," is a proverb with which every resident in the tropics is familiar. While in consequence of the onward march of scientific achievement, this disease, so depressing in its onset, so devitalising in its effect, and so disorganising in its result to the whole system is better understood than it used to be, it is still, unhappily, exceedingly prevalent, and is likely to continue until the conditions which produce it have been banished.

Most people know that while Malaria may take various forms it is due to a special germ or microbe, which destroys the red corpuscles by which the oxygen of the air is carried by the blood to every part of the body to burn up its impurities. The destruction of these corpuscles produces the marked symptoms so characteristic of the disease—the pale, sallow, earthy complexion, the mental and physical lassitude, the depression, the morbid thoughts and feelings, the aching muscles and the tender joints.

Bad as is all this, the result of Anaemia or poverty of the blood, as it is commonly called, which makes life a burden to the sufferer, it may go considerably farther until it produces that wasted and dangerous condition of the system doctors call "Cachexia."

For long Quinine has been the sheet anchor of the physician, and in the acute stages it generally answers admirably, but in the later stages something else must be employed to destroy the effects wrought by the microbes.

Happily, in this conquest of the host of the disease germs which invade the body under the banner of Malaria, the physician has been presented with a weapon as potent over them as the modern machine gun is potent against the old flint lock gun. This weapon is Sanatogen, one of the most powerful restoratives and vitalising agents ever given to the world. Its remarkable properties are due to its two constituents Casein, the solid portion of pure, new milk, and Glycero-phosphate of Soda, a

preparation containing phosphorus in the precise form in which it exists in the body. Phosphorus, as every one knows, is not only as a physician has written "intimately associated with the health of the system, and is indispensable for the discharge of the functions of the nervous centres," but is also "absolutely essential for the growth of what physiologists term the cells of the body, the microscopic bricks of which the human edifice is constructed." This cell growth is greatly interfered with in Malaria, and a supply of phosphorus which is easily absorbed by the depleted system is urgently necessary to restore it to its standard activity. Nothing does this so well as Sanatogen, as nothing so rapidly restores the vitality of the blood as this preparation, which is prescribed by over twelve thousand physicians in the world because no secret has ever been made of its constituents and they realise its overwhelming value in rousing the functions of the body to do their duty.

How rapidly Sanatogen restores the blood after Anaemia may be judged from the fact that one eminent physician records that the red blood corpuscles in a patient increased eighty thousand per cubic milli-metre in a week, and the percentage of red colouring matter in them advanced from 61% to 62.5% while another patient, who was unable to take any solid food and was losing weight rapidly so improved in a fortnight that the red corpuscles increased two hundred thousand per cubic milli-metre, their red colouring matter from 48% to 52%, and she was able to resume her household duties, completely cured of the terrible melancholia from which she was suffering.

Children are especially liable to Malaria and its pernicious after effects which may delay their development and stunt their growth. When given Sanatogen they rapidly improve. One child who at three years old, in consequence of Malaria, weighed only half-a-pound more than it did when it was a year and a half, was given a small quantity of Sanatogen daily, and its weight at once began to go up half-a-pound a week.

Just as Malaria causes wasting in children, it makes adults prematurely old, in consequence of the depression of the vitality of the system. This condition is rapidly cured by Sanatogen, which removes the prematurely old look and soon substitutes for the feeble will and listless spirit a healthy interest in normal pursuits.

An exceedingly interesting pamphlet on the subject of Malaria has been written by a physician who had a wide experience of it in India. In order to give this momentous publication, "Malaria, its Causes and Effects," the widest publicity, the proprietors of the copyright have instructed Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Shanghai, to distribute a limited number of copies free of charge, to anyone who may feel interested in it, and will send a post card mentioning the N. China Daily News.

Sanatogen, by the way, may be obtained direct from Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Shanghai, and at all chemists, etc.

for the greater part of her life. Before his sister died she gave him instructions as to her funeral and the place of burial. She said that all her property was to go to her adopted son and witness was to take care of the property for him. Beside that, the document produced was written by a Mr. Shu at the dictation of the deceased. After this document had been written, it was handed to witness. The plaintiff went to the house and saw deceased in witness's presence. A man named Wong made overtures to deceased to allow Yang to take her home, but she made no reply; she was utterly prostrate the last two days. Mr. and Mrs. Wong were sitting on the bed and they took a ring off deceased's finger and put it on the hand of Yang's son. The woman died shortly afterwards and Wong ordered witness out of the house. Witness informed the police, returned to the house with them, ordered Yang's people out and got the coffin. The insurance policy on deceased's life was paid to witness.

Cross-examined by Mr. Douglas, witness said that he was a true brother of deceased and that he was wrongly described in the concubine agreement. He went to Yang's house when his sister became Yang's concubine. He was then eleven years of age. When they left Yang's house they were turned out, and from that time until his sister died witness lived with her. Witness was now twenty-five years of age and his sister had always clothed and fed him.

A Chinese doctor next gave evidence. Shu Ping-wei said that he had known deceased intimately for eleven years. The whole of her property was to be in the charge of her brother for his son, who had been adopted by the deceased. During the eleven years witness had known this woman he had never heard any mention of Yang or his son.

Cross-examined—Witness had loaned out for deceased a pearl eap that was her property. He had given deceased a guarantee for \$2,000 for its safe return. Deceased owed him \$850.

After hearing other witnesses, the Court reserved its judgment until next day.

PASSENGERS.

OUTWARD.

Per str. LOONGOW, Jan. 21.—For Chinkiang—Capt. and Mrs. Tamplin. For Wuhu—Mr. Fairbairn. For Hankow—Rev. and Mrs. George and three children, Rev. and Mrs. Jackson, Misses George, Edwin, Ellis, and Saxelby.

Per str. KIANGKUAN, Jan. 20.—For Hankow—Mr. Shearstone.

Per str. TOURANE, Jan. 21.—For Kobe—Messrs. Ginsburger, Messulam, G. Lazarra, and P. P. Borne.

Per str. KOSAI MARU, Jan. 22.—For Nagasaki—Mr. and Mrs. F. McGarity, and T. Ohmura. For Kobe—Misses (2) Wilkinson. For Yokohama—Mrs. R. I. Lent, and Mr. T. Adair.

Per str. LITA, Jan. 22.—For Ningpo—Messrs. E. Sachs, O. Schneider, and G. V. T. Marshall.

Per str. DERFFLINGER, Jan. 22.—For Hongkong—Messrs. F. J. d'Almeida and family, Mrs. Pitts and child, Misses Clark, Hughes, R. Schwartz, and J. Grunberg, Rev. Julius, Messrs. K. A. Muller, E. David, J. Gracey, F. A. van der Loo, A. Kopp, and J. A. David and son. For Suez—Mrs. O. Cainadan, Mr. Leiming. For Penang—Mrs. and Miss Hogan, Mr. W. Poignand. For Genoa—Mr. and Mrs. Reve de Hees, Messrs. Trapp and G. Hagen. For Naples—Mr. Eichwade and family. For Colombo—Mr. R. D. Kapadia. For London—Mr. J. Campbell.

Per str. SYRIA, Jan. 23.—For Hongkong—Mr. Tait. For Singapore—Mr. and Mrs. Vigors, Misses Dundas, Russell, and Harcourt, Messrs. C. Vane, H. Neville, G. McLeod, S. Geach, A. Alves, S. Lopez, E. Granby, and R. Smith. For London—Mr. and Mrs. A. Lambden and child, Mrs. Blair, Mrs. Ryan, Mr. and Mrs. Dallas, Miss Forsyth, Engr. and Comdr. C. T. Greethan, R.N., Messrs. A. E. Lockyer and W. G. Baker.

Per str. LIMAO, Jan. 24.—For Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. B. Giles and child, Messrs. F. Briat, Ziegler, and Hemmel.

Per str. TINGSANG, Jan. 23.—For Chefoo—Mrs. J. H. Stooke, and Miss S. Maher. For Tientsin—Mr. and Mrs. Bonboulon.

Per str. TATUNG, Jan. 23.—For Chinkiang—Mr. and Mrs. Byworth, Mr. and Mrs. Sharpe. For Wuhu—Mr. Brock. For Hankow—Misses M. N. Hill and van der Slice, Messrs. Martiny, Viloudaki, Carfield and P. Wabli.

Per str. KANCHOW, Jan. 23.—For Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Bona, Mr. and Mrs. Rondon, and Mr. Emmanuel.

Per str. YOCOW, Jan. 23.—For Weihaiwei—Mrs. and Master Molet, Masters Ross and Dering. For Chefoo—Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and Mr. Capmae.

Per str. HAINFUNG, Jan. 25.—For Foochow—Dr. and Mrs. T. B. Sia, Messrs. Lau and W. F. Vallance.

Per str. KIANGTEEN, Jan. 22.—For Ningpo—Mr. G. A. Madar.

Per str. KIANGHSIN, Jan. 24.—For Hankow—Misses A. M. and E. Schenuff.

Per str. HOIHOW, Jan. 22.—For Swatow—Messrs. Garner and Borek.

Per str. TUCKOW, Jan. 25.—For Kiangyin—Mr. E. W. Turner. For Tatung—Mr. M. O. Springfield. For Kinkiang—Miss L. Hamilton. For Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Somekh, Dr. and Mrs. Crockett, Miss C. Simpson, Dr. Lina Hatfield, Messrs. W. J. Reid, H. Cadman, and H. W. Devereux.

Per str. WENCHOW, Jan. 25.—For Chinwangtao—Messrs. Morris and Wang Tsze-zung.

Per str. YUNNAN, Jan. 25.—For Swatow—Miss McGowan, and Mr. Petersen.

Per str. SHUNTEN, Jan. 25.—For Hongkong—Mrs. Lewis and two daughters, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Orange, Messrs. Neibuhr and Wu Wen-pu.

Per str. HAINFUNG, Jan. 25.—For Foochow—Prince de Bearn.

Per str. KIANGTEEN, Jan. 25.—For Ningpo—Mr. J. Moore.

Per str. ALDENHAM, Jan. 27.—For M-lbourne—Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Drakeford and child.

Per str. HAKUAI MARU, Jan. 25.—For Nagasaki—Capt. J. Vaughan. For Kobe—Capt. K. Hige, and Mr. C. Francke. For Yokohama—Mrs. K. Matsumura, Messrs. Z. Baronian, J. Kersanson, H. Macrae, A. R. Owens, and H. Wrenacre.

Per str. PEMBROKESHIRE, Jan. 25.—For Hongkong—Mr. J. O. P. Bland. For London—Mrs. S. J. Powell and two children, and Mrs. A. A. Godwin.

Per str. NGANKIN, Jan. 26.—For Hankow—Mrs. Crabtree.

Per str. LINAN, Jan. 27.—For Hongkong—Mrs. Davies.

Per str. FOOCOW, Jan. 27.—For Chefoo—Miss Mallyon.

Per str. PEKIN, Jan. 26.—For Ningpo—Mr. Maingon.

INWARD.

Per str. TOURANE, Jan. 21.—From Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. Bonboulon, Mrs. Rosenthal, Messrs. Ziegler and P. Westergood. From Port Said—Messrs. Negris and Stavrius. From Colombo—Mr. Ferrand. From Saigon—Messrs. Laffont, Briat, Le Breton, and Mercier. From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. J. Lipsdrer, Miss Sandler, Messrs. P. Kunze, G. B. White, C. Buy, Howard, and L. Wilson.

Per str. TATUNG, Jan. 21.—From Hankow—Messrs. Philipsen and Lusimy.

Per str. DERFFLINGER, Jan. 20.—From Yokohama—Messrs. G. P. Colfield and Rosenshewa. From Kobe—Misses Mary and Grünberg, and Mr. J. Hayama and party.

Per str. KIANGFOO, Jan. 20.—From Hankow—Father Rossell.

Per str. SHUNTEN, Jan. 21.—From Ningpo—Misses Green, E. J. and M. M. Clark, and Hughes.

Per str. HAINFUNG, Jan. 21.—From Foochow—Misses (2) Wilkinson.

Per str. MONTEAGLE, Jan. 22.—From Vancouver—Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Westworth, Mr. P. and Miss R. Westworth, Mrs. Monzies, Dr. and Mrs. J. Crockett, Misses Burke and Devoe, Rev. Field, Messrs. J. W. Dickenson, Kopp, A. Black, and Bootland. From Yokohama—Miss Faye Noble. From Kobe—Mr. W. D. Morris.

Per str. KOSAI MARU, Jan. 21.—From Tairen—Mr. and Mrs. Japelin and child, Mr. and Mrs. Gilmer, Misses Martin, Siedelburg, Annis, and Skean, Dr. A. Krakowsky, Messrs. B. H. Betts, Lionel Jupp, J. Fairhurst, G. von Rothenburg, R. Tak-hashi, R. M. Ransom, J. Brodie, C. R. Burkill, E. Bechtien, A. McGlew, D. McGregor, J. A. Dawson, N. G. Speyer, R. Rilter, and A. Kimizuka.

Per str. PEKIN, Jan. 23.—From Ningpo—Father Melford.

Per str. KIANGHSIN, Jan. 22.—From Hankow—Miss MacIntosh.

Per str. Foochow, Jan. 21.—From Dalny and Weihaiwei—Mr. Hendrie, Misses Broadhurst and Mowatt.

Per str. LITA, Jan. 22.—From Ningpo—Mr. Emile Sauvage.

Per str. HAKUAI MARU, Jan. 22.—From Nagasaki—Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Rondon, and Master E. M. Dening.

Per str. POYANG, Jan. 23.—From Hankow—Mrs. Hamilton, Mr., Mrs., and Master Goffe, and Mr. H. G. Curran.

Per str. TAKSANG, Jan. 24.—From Tsingtao—Mr. and Mrs. Whittick.

Per str. TUCKWO, Jan. 24.—From Hankow—Prince de Beurn, Bro. Louis Michiel, Messrs. Lancaster and Van Anahl.

Per str. HAEAN, Jan. 25.—From Foochow—Mr. and Mrs. D. Mealla, Miss Jobst, Messrs. H. C. Evans and J. Moor.

Per str. LITA, Jan. 25.—From Ningpo—Father Mistel, Messrs. O. Schneider, E. Sachs, and G. Marshall.

Per str. KIANGTEEN, Jan. 25.—From Ningpo—Mr. Madar.

Per str. KIANGYU, Jan. 25.—From Hankow—Messrs. Katterwinkel and Bourgeat.

Per str. KWANGPING, Jan. 25.—From Chinwangtao—Mr. and Mrs. Brady and child, and Mr. W. G. Sherman. From Tientsin—Mr. McKee.

Per str. ALDENHAM, Jan. 26.—From Brisbane—Mr. and Mrs. Lebedeff and two children. From Manila—Mr., Mrs., and the Misses A. Naftaly. From Hongkong—Mr. O. Kilbat.

Per str. KWONGSANG, Jan. 25.—From Hongkong—Mr. Eilin-cha.

Per str. SUIWO, Jan. 26.—From Hankow—Mrs. Baker and two children, Misses Black and Warren, Messrs. McLelland and Clements.

Per str. ANHUI, Jan. 27.—From Hongkong—Drs. McCraker and Meartons, Capt. Lewis, Messrs. Wagonmont, Bullock, Decroon, Thor, Gray, and Maxwell, and Masters (2) Thor.

Per str. KIANGTEEN, Jan. 27.—From Ningpo—Mr. Moore.

Per str. LIFONG, Jan. 27.—From Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. O'Neill, Mr. and Mrs. Pouyer, Messrs. G. Pouyer, Del Marmol, Lumppe Widegg, and Lorandt.

Per str. AKI MARU, Jan. 26.—From Japan—Messrs. E. Frey and T. F. Millard.

Per str. KUTWO, Jan. 27.—From Hankow—Mrs. Steele, and Mr. Wilson.

Per str. HSINMING, Jan. 26.—From Canton and Hongkong—Mr. E. G. Albers.

Per str. PEKIN, Jan. 26.—From Ningpo—Messrs. Finney, Maingon, Dinconstance, and Fruyland.

MIXED COURT FORMS

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- Form 1 Distress for Rent.
- Form 2 Auction Order.
- Form 3 Removal of Seals..
- Form 4 Summons for Rent

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS & HERALD LD
17 THE BUND, SHANGHAI

LATEST COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, JANUARY 27, 1910.

EXCHANGE & BULLION

(OPENING RATES.)

ON LONDON—Bank Rate— Tael.
Tel. Transfer 2s. 4½d.
Demand 2s. 4½d.
Bank Drafts, 4 m/s 2s. 4½d.
Credits 4 m/s 2s. 5½d.
do. 6 m/s 2s. 5½d.
Docy. Bills, 4 m/s 2s. 5½d.
do. 6 m/s 2s. 5½d.

ON GERMANY—
Tel. Transfers 2.44½
Demand 2.45
Bank Drafts, 4 m/s 2.47
Credits, 4 m/s 2.50
Docy. Bills, 4 m/s 2.51
do. 6 m/s 2.53

ON NEW YORK—
Demand 58½
Docy. Bills, 4 m/s 60

ON PARIS—
Demand, Fcs. 3.01½
Docy 4 m/s Fcs. 3.07

ON CALCUTTA—
Telegraphic Transfers 1.78½
ON BOMBAY—Transfers 1.78½

ON HONGKONG—
Bank, Demand 75½%

ON YOKOHAMA—
Bank, Demand 85½

SOVEREIGNS—Bank's buying rate.....Tls. 8.22
\$11.12
MEXICAN DOLLARS Tls. 7.39

SHANGHAI GOLD BARS, 98 touch Sh. Tls. 408
BAR SILVER.....Tls. 111.15
COPPER CASH.....1.700 per tael.
NATIVE INTEREST 07 cand.

LAST LONDON QUOTATIONS.

Bar Silver, 24½d.
Bank rate of discount 3½%
Market rate of discount, 3 ms. sight 2½%, 4 ms. sight 2½½%, and 6 ms. sight 2½%.
Consols, £82½.
Exchange on Shanghai, 60d/s. 2s. 4d.
Exchange, Paris on London, Fr. 25 20
New York on London, t.r., \$4.86.75

CUSTOM HOUSE RATES OF EXCHANGE

FOR JANUARY.

£1—Hk. Tls. 7.51
Hk. Tl. 1—Francs 3.35
" 1—Marks 2.72
Gold \$ 1—Hk. Tls. 1.54
Hk. Tl. 1—Yen 1.30
" 1—Rupees 2.00
" 1—Mex. \$ 1.50

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FOR ALL

SKIN AND BLOOD DISEASES.

If you suffer from any disease due to an impure state of the Blood, from WHATEVER CAUSE ARISING, you should test the value of Clarke's Blood Mixture, the world-famed Blood Purifier and Restorer. This medicine has 40 years reputation, and is to-day more popular than ever, the reason of this being undoubtedly because this wonderful remedy does what it professes to do—it CURES SKIN AND DISEASES OF THE BLOOD PERMANENTLY.

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IS THE FINEST BLOOD PURIFIER EVER DISCOVERED.

It is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities, from whatever cause arising. For

SCROFULA	BAD LEGS
SCURVY	BLOTCHES
ECZEMA	SPOTS
BLOOD POISON	BLACKHEADS
ULCERS	PIMPLES
SKIN AND BLOOD DISEASES	and SORES OF ALL KINDS

It is a safe and permanent remedy. Sold by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

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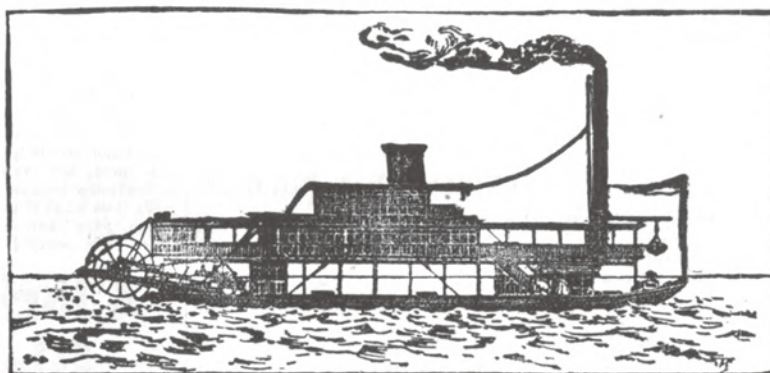
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17 THE BUND, SHANGHAI.

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STERNWHEEL STEAMERS have been found by experience to be the best type of vessel for shallow river navigation under many conditions of working, and of these Messrs. YARROW have built a very large number of successful examples for all parts of the world.

Vessels of this system are constructed, when required, to draw as little as 10 inches.

The construction of shallow river vessels propelled on various systems has been made the speciality of Messrs. YARROW & Co., Ltd.

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29-10-10 40f

November 6, 1909.

Healthy Children

Can only be reared by giving suitable nourishment. If unable to feed your child, the proper substitute is a food that corresponds in all respects with human milk. The "Allenburys" Milk Foods are so prepared as to remove the difference between cow's milk and human milk, and are most easy of digestion. They are alike suitable for the delicate and robust, and, when used as directed, form the best means of rearing a child by hand. The No. 1 Milk Food may be given alternately with the natural food without fear of causing digestive disturbance.

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MILK FOOD No. 1.
From birth to 3 months.

MILK FOOD No. 2.
From 3 to 6 months.

MALTED FOOD No. 3.
From 6 months and upwards.

A Pamphlet on Infant Feeding and Management, Free.

ALLEN & HANBURYS Ltd., 37, Lombard Street, LONDON, E.C.

o o a m 30-11-09 4471

Dec 11, 1908.

SHANGHAI SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS (SINCE REPORT PER LAST ISSUE.)

Date.	Name.	Tons	Captain.	Flag.	From.	Cargo.	Consignees.
Jan 19	Liu Hsing	750	Williams	Chi	Cruise		Customs
... 19	Tachi Maru	1282	Narita	Jap	Hankow	General	N Kisen Kaisha
... 19	Fushimi	1801	Ide	Jap	Cruise		
... 20	Yungshin	999	Hopkins	Chi	Ningpo	do	Ningshao S N Co
... 20	Lita	1727	Henry	Fr	Ningpo	do	Rackermann & Co
... 20	Kiangteen	1453	Gillespie	Chi	Ningpo	do	O M S N Co
... 20	Fungshun	881	Malcolm	Chi	Wenchow	do	O M S N Co
... 20	Fujisan Maru	1257	Koisumi	Jap	Japan	Coal	M B Kaisha
... 20	Singyue	1100	Klansen	Chi	Chefoo		Ch Com S N Co
... 20	Poltava	1986	Bakanoff	Rus	Vladivostok	Mails, etc	Ch. E Railway Co
... 20	Ad Tirpitz	1199	Artelt	Ger	Kiaochoo	General	H-America Line
... 20	Loongwo	2386	Christie	Br	Hankow	do	J M & Co Ltd
... 20	Choahun Maru	1303	Suruga	Jap	Foochow	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 20	Tafoo Maru	1451	Nomura	Jap	Hankow	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 20	Changon	1289	Harvey	Br	Hankow	do	Geddes & Co
... 20	Helios	880	Kuudersen	Nor	Japan	Coal	Furukawa M Co
... 20	Nightingale	85	Wedward	Br	Hankow		
... 20	Meishun	1151	Minning	Ger	Hankow	General	Melchers & Co
... 20	Lima	1728	Seite	Fr	Hankow	do	R A Ackermann & Co
... 20	Atagosan Maru	1299	Atarashi	Jap	Japan	Coal	M B Kaisha

SUPPLEMENT TO THE NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

J. P. BISSET & CO.'S SHARE REPORT

For Week ending January 27, 1910.

Since our last report of the 13th instant the share market has undergone some appreciable changes, notably in Rubber, Cotton and Langkats. Generally speaking, Rubbers have appreciated, in price, cottons decidedly weaker, whilst Langkats are in very much stronger demand. The T.T. rate on London to-day is $2\frac{1}{4}\frac{1}{2}$.

DIVIDENDS.—The Shanghai Land Investment Co. Ltd. have declared a final dividend of 6% and Tl. 1. bonus for the half-year ended December 31. The Laou Kung Mow C. S. & W. Co., Ltd. will pay Tls. 6 per share on the 3rd proximo being 6% for 1909.

BANKS.—No business.

INSURANCE.—Nothing reported.

SHIPPING.—*Shanghai Tugs.* On the 21st and 24th at Tls. 52 for Pref. and Tls. $42\frac{1}{2}$ for Ord. shares. *Kochien Tugs.* On the 24th at Tls. 50.

DOCKS & WHARVES.—*Shanghai & Hongkew Wharves.* On the 15th at Tls. 128, on the 17th and 26th at Tls. $128\frac{1}{2}$ cash, on the 17th and 20th at Tls. 131, on the 25th and 26th at Tls. 130 for March. *Shanghai Docks.* On the 19th at Tls. 81-83 cash and Tls. 84 for March, on the 22nd at Tls. 85 March.

MINING.—No business.

LANDS.—On the 17th at Tls. $117\frac{1}{2}$ and on the 25th at Tls. $116\frac{1}{2}$ cash. *Anglo-French Lands* at Tls. 103.

PLANTATIONS.—Shanghai Sumatras have changed hands at Tls. 145-147-146 March on the 15th and 17th at Tls. 148-149-148 $\frac{1}{2}$, on the 19th, 20th and 21st at Tls. 145-140 on the 24th and 25th, and Tls. 149 March on the 26th. *Dominions* at Tls. 20 and Tls. $20\frac{1}{2}$, Tls. $24\frac{1}{2}$ f.p.u and Tls. $19\frac{1}{2}$ for cash. Tls. 21, Tls. $22\frac{1}{2}$, Tls. $20\frac{1}{2}$ for March. *Kroeweaks.* On the 15th and 17th at Tls. 24 March. On the 19th at Tls. $22\frac{1}{2}$ cash. On the 20th at Tls. 23 March. On the 22nd at Tls. $22\frac{1}{2}$ March. On the 24th at Tls. 22 cash and Tls. 33 March. On the 24th at Tls. $22\frac{1}{2}$ cash and Tls. $23\frac{1}{2}$ March. On the 26th at Tls. 23 cash and Tls. $24\frac{1}{2}$, $24\frac{3}{4}$ and 25 for March. *Almas* at Tls. $16\frac{1}{2}$, 16, $16\frac{1}{2}$, $14\frac{1}{2}$, 14 and 15 for cash. Tls. $16\frac{1}{2}$, $16\frac{1}{2}$, 16, $15\frac{3}{4}$, 15, 16 for March. *Chempedaks.* Business has been done at Tls. 20 for March and Tls. $15\frac{1}{2}$ for cash. *Tebongs* at Tls. 22- $22\frac{1}{2}$ - $19\frac{1}{2}$ March and Tls. $21\frac{1}{2}$ cash. *Ayer Tawahs* at Tls. $10\frac{1}{2}$ - $11\frac{1}{2}$ and 10 cash. *Jaras* at Tls. $19\frac{1}{2}$ March. *Pengkulans* at Tls. 25 cash. *Senawangs* at Tls. $407\frac{1}{2}$ and Tls. 400 June.

COTTONS.—*Laou Kung Mows* at Tls. 80 and $79\frac{1}{2}$ cash. Tls. $82\frac{1}{2}$, $85\frac{1}{2}$ and 86 March. *China Flours* at Tls. 58 cash. *Shanghai Cottons* at Tls. 73, 72 March. *Ewos* at Tls. 135, Tls. 134 March c.n.i. and Tls. 135 ex n.i. March. *International Cottons* at Tls. 70 and Tls. 68 cash.

INDUSTRIAL.—*Maatschappij &c. in Langkats.* Tls. 1,000-1,005-995 March. Tls. 975 cash on the 15th. Tls. $1,002\frac{1}{2}$, 1,010, 1,025, 1,035, 1,045, 1,040 March, Tls. 1,010 cash on the 17th. Tls. 1,045, 1,050, 1,055, 1,060 March on the 18th. Tls. 1,060, 1,055, 1,040, 1,030, 1,040, March on the 19th. Tls. 1,050, 1,055 March, Tls. 1,020 cash, on the 20th. Tls. 1,040 March on the 21st. Tls. 1,050-1,047 $\frac{1}{2}$ March on the 22nd. Tls. 1,050 1,060, 1,055, $1,052\frac{1}{2}$ March on the 24th. Tls. 1,050, 1,040, $1,037\frac{1}{2}$, $1,032\frac{1}{2}$ March on the 25th. Tls. $1,037\frac{1}{2}$ and 1,040, 1,035 March and 1,010 cash on the 26th. *Shanghai Ices.* Tls. 12. *China Import & Ex. Lumbers.* Tls. 70.

STORES.—*Centrals.* $\$15\frac{3}{4}$ cash.

MISCELLANEOUS.—*Tramways* at £7 Ex. $2\frac{1}{4}\frac{1}{2}$, and £6. $15\frac{1}{2}$ /. *Telephones.* Tls. 65-64.

DEBENTURES.—*Telephones* 6% Debs. Tls. $101\frac{1}{2}$.

STOCK	Closing Quotation.	Forward March.	No of Shares.	Value.	Paid up.	Reserve.	Last Dividend, etc.	Due.
BANKS.						£1,500,000 \$14,500,000		

H'kong & Shanghai Bank Cor.....	\$1027½ sellers	....	120,000	\$125	\$125	\$250,000	Int. div. of £2 for 1909	21-8-09
National Bank of China (Ld.)	99,925	\$7	\$6	\$300,000				1-2-09
Central Stores, Ld. Ordinary	\$15½ nom.	....	50,123	\$15	\$15	....	\$1.20 for 1908	5-3-9
do do do Founders	\$400 buyers	....	123	\$15	\$15	....	....	....
S. Moutrie & Co., Ld.	\$40 nom.	....	10,000	\$50	\$50	\$26,058.62	Dividend 4% for the year to 31-3-9	29-6-9
Weeks & Co., Ld.	\$26½ sales	....	200,000	\$20	\$20	\$40,000	Int. dividend 0.80 for 1909	6-12-09
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ld.	\$165 sales	....	2,500	100	100	\$80,541	Dividend 10% for 1908	1-6-09
Dunning & Co., Ld.	\$35 sales	....	2,000	\$50	50	....	Dividend 10% for the year to 29-2-08	15-4-08
HOTELS.								
Astor House Hotel Co., Ld.	\$17 buyers	....	25,520	\$25	\$25	\$30,000	div. 9% or \$2½ for the year to 30-6-07	17-8-7
Hongkong Hotel Co., Ld.	\$78 buyers	....	12,000	\$50	\$50	\$648,975	Final of \$3 making \$6 for 1908	11-3-09
Hotel des Colonies, Ld.	T4 sales	....	9,000	T12.50	T12.50	....	Final div. 6%—10% for year 1907	31-5-6
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ld.	T52½ sales	....	5,400	T50	T50	T27,379	10% for year ending 31-12-08	27-4-09
Shanghai Mercury, Ld.	T55 buyers	....	2,100	T50	T50	none	Int. 4% 6 mos. to 31/10	23-12-09
Sh'hai Mutual Telephone Co., Ld.	T67½ sales	....	20,000	T50	T50	....	Tls. 3 for the year 31-3-09	8-6-09
Dallas Horse Repository Co., Ld.	T25 nom.	....	5,000	T50	T50	....	3% for the year to 31-7-07	....

COA S.	Closing	Loan Amt.	Outstdg.	Nom.	Int.	Payable.	LOANS	Closing	Loan Amt.	Outstdg.	Nom.	Int.	Payable.		
Shanghai Municipal Debentures.	1892	T92½	T50,000	T45,400	T100	5%	June-Dec.	1890	T104	T250,000	T250,000	T100	6%	May-Nov.	
	1893	96	125,000	47,000	100	5½	Do.	1892	96	250,000	250,000	100	5	June-Dec.	
	1894	105	105,000	60,000	100	6	Do.	1894	104	250,000	250,000	100	6	Mar.-Sept	
	1895	92½	115,000	107,600	100	5	Do.	1896	92½	250,000	250,000	100	5	June-Dec.	
	1896	92½	140,000	117,300	100	5	Do.	1900	104	250,000	250,000	100	6	April-Oct.	
	1897	92½	265,800	268,400	100	5	Do.	1901	104	250,000	250,000	100	6	June-Dec.	
	1898	105	300,000	60,000	100	6	Do.	1901	96	100,000	100,000	100	5	May-Nov.	
	1900	96	33,900	31,700	100	5½	Do.	1902	104	400,000	400,000	100	6	June-Dec.	
	1901	105	250,000	250,000	100	6	Do.	1905	104	250,000	250,000	100	6	Do.	
	1902	105	150,000	150,000	100	6	Do.	1909	104	750,000	750,000	100	6	Do.	
	1903	105	490,500	490,500	100	6	Do.	Shanghai Waterworks Co., Debentures	1909	104	815,900	815,900	100	6	June-Dec.
	1904	105	214,500	214,500	100	6	Do.								
	1905	105	320,000	295,800	100	6	Do.								
	1907	105	250,000	250,000	100	6	Do.								
1908	105	650,000	471,200	100	6	June-Dec.									
Chinese Imp. Govt. Loan & Shanghai Gas Co., Debentures	1896	sales 250	767,200	254,000	250	7	Mar.-Sept.	Perak Deb.	1902	101	187,800	187,800	100	7	April-Oct.
	1909	104	800,000	800,000	100	6	June-Dec.	Wharf Deb.	1902	102½	1,000,000	1,000,000	100	6	Dec.-June
								Astor House Deb.	104	600,000	600,000	100	7	Do	
								Sh'hai Mutual Telephone Co. Debentures ...	101½			100	6	Sept.-Mar	

For all Dollar shares the exchange is fixed at 73

THE NORTH-CHINA HERALD

SHANGHAI SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.—Continued.

Date	Name.	Tons	Captain.	Flag.	From.	Cargo.	Consignees.
Jan 20	Kiangfoo	1468	arlson	Chi	Hankow	General	C M S N Co
... 20	Derflinger	5241	Meiners	Ger	Japan	do	Melchers & Co
... 20	Tourene	8104	Martin	Fr	Hongkong, &c.	Mails, etc	M Maritimes
... 21	Shuntien	1081	Meathrel	Br	Ningpo	General	B & Swire
... 21	Ningahao	1318	Bell	Chi	Ningpo	do	Ningahao S N Co
... 21	Heinfung	1385	Mackinnon	Chi	Foochow	do	C M S N Co
... 21	Manju Maru	1030	Watanabe	Jap	Japan	Coal	M B Kaisha
... 21	Nuncaster Ctle	3050	Watson	Br	New York	K Oil	Standard Oil Co
... 21	Nanyang Maru	2225	Takeshita	Jap	Hankow	do	Nisshin K Kaisha
... 21	Tenyo Maru	7266	Bent	Jap	San Francisco	Mails, etc	Toyo Kisen Kaisha
... 21	Chiyoda Maru	1039	Mateumoto	Jap	Japan	Coal	Moller Brothers
... 21	Tatung	1828	Walker	Br	Hankow	General	B & Swire
... 21	Foochow	1223	Vincent	Br	Chefoo	do	B & Swire
... 21	Alger	8255	Delsons	Fr	Cruise	do	B & Swire
... 22	Lita	1728	Henry	Fr	Ningpo	do	B Ackermann & Co
... 22	Kiangteen	1453	Gillespie	Chi	Ningpo	do	C M S N Co
... 22	Yungahin	999	Hopkins	Chi	Ningpo	do	Ningahao S N Co
... 22	Yunnan	8208	Jones	Br	Chefoo	do	B & Swire
... 22	Kobe Maru	1623	Higo	Jap	Dairen	Mails, etc	N Yusen Kaisha
... 22	Belle of S'tland	3207	Nutman	Br	Japan	do	H-American Line
... 22	Syria	4191	Gregor	Br	Japan, Tsingtao	General	P & O S N Co
... 22	Singlee	934	Yamagata	Chi	Kiaochou	do	Ch Com S N Co
... 22	Kwangchi	316	Stroak	Chi	Chefoo	do	C M S N Co
... 22	Monteagle	3953	Robinson	Br	Vancouver	Mails, etc	C P Ry Co
... 22	Penbrokeshire	2767	Liddle	Br	Japan	General	J M & Co Ld
... 22	Hakui Maru	1434	Irisawa	Jap	Japan	do	N Yusen Kaisha
... 22	Yunnan	4214	Lerequier	Fr	do	do	M Maritimes
... 22	Wanchow	380	Ainalie	Br	Hongkong	do	B & Swire
... 22	Kintuck	2896	Paddle	Br	Liverpool etc	do	B & Swire
... 22	Kwangtee	1468	Forberg	Chi	Hongkong	do	C M S N Co
... 22	Chinkiang	1229	Kay	Br	Swatow	do	B and Swire
... 22	Kianghsin	2101	Lindstrom	Chi	Hankow	do	C M S N Co
... 22	Kungping	1742	Ross	Chi	Karatsu	do	C M S N Co
... 22	Ningahao	1318	Bell	Chi	Ningpo	do	Ningahao S N Co
... 23	Pekin	1274	Stott	Br	Ningpo	do	B and Swire
... 23	Vorwaerts	3727	Kautter	Ger	Cruise	do	J M & Co Ld
... 23	Hangsang	1650	Wilde	Br	Swatow	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 23	Tachang Maru	1881	Kusakari	Jap	Hankow	do	B and Swire
... 23	Hangchow	999	Mawley	Br	Chinkiang	do	B and Swire
... 23	Poyang	1892	Carnaghan	Br	Hankow	do	H-American Line
... 23	Sikiang	1016	Helfer	Ger	Kiaochou	do	B & Swire
... 23	Priam	2905	Lewis	Br	Japan	do	J M & Co Ld
... 23	Tuckwo	3355	Sandbach	Br	Hankow	do	S Wieler & Co
... 23	Vorwaerts	3727	Bednarz	Aus	Hongkong	do	H-American Line
... 24	Gov. Jaeschke	1057	ilgrim	Ger	Tsingtao	do	C M S N Co
... 24	Toonan	942	Crawford	Chi	Amoy, Swatow	do	P & O S N Co
... 24	Arcadia	3214	Barham	Br	Hongkong, etc	Mails, etc	B & Swire
... 24	Linan	1352	Williams	Br	Hongkong	General	East-Asiatic Co
... 24	Mongolia	1628	Katkin	Rus	V'stock v Japan	do	Furukawa M Co
... 24	Seiun Maru	1385	Koyama	Jap	Japan	Coal	J M & Co Ld
... 24	Fooksang	1987	Mitchell	Br	Hongkong	General	B & Swire
... 24	Ngankin	1719	French	Br	Hankow	do	J M & Co Ld
... 24	Taksang	977	McClure	Br	Kiaochou	do	Ch Com S N Co
... 24	Loiyue	558	Takei	Chi	Foochow	do	Thoresen & Co
... 24	Heimdal	762	Johnsen	Nor	Japan	Coal	R Ackermann & Co
... 25	Lita	1727	Henry	Fr	Ningpo	General	C M S N Co
... 25	Kiangteen	1436	Gillespie	Chi	Ningpo	do	Ningahao S N Co
... 25	Yungahin	1200	Hopkins	Chi	Ningpo	do	C M S N Co
... 25	Haean	837	Wallace	Chi	Foochow	do	C Eng & Ming Co
... 25	Kwangping	1243	Chapman	Br	Chinwangtao	Coal and General	B & Swire
... 25	Tamsui	819	Lennox	Br	Swatow	General	N Yusen Kaisha
... 25	Yamaguchi M	2059	Shimidzu	Jap	Japan	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 25	Siangyang M'n	2225	Scott	Jap	Hankow	do	East-Asiatic Co
... 25	Euplectela	2507	Bramston	Br	Singapore	K Oil and Bensine	C M S N Co
... 25	Kiangyu	1490	Wade	Chi	Hankow	General	J M & Co Ld
... 25	Kwongsang	1354	Baker	Br	S'w, H'kg, C'ton	do	Ningahao S N Co
... 26	Ningahao	1318	Bell	Chi	Ningpo	do	B & Swire
... 26	Pekin	1274	Stott	Br	Ningpo	do	G Livingston & Co
... 26	Aldenharn	3142	Hood	Br	Hongkong	do	Ch Eng & Mg Co
... 26	Anna	117	Arutzen	Nor	Chinwangtao	do	N Yusen Kaisha
... 26	Chikugo Maru	1589	Fegen	Jap	Japan	do	C M S N Co
... 26	Heinming	1428	Blethen	Chi	H'kong & O'ton	do	Melchers & Co
... 26	Meidah	1150	Mulleitner	Ger	Hankow	do	J M & Co Ld
... 26	Suiwo	1931	Sellar	Br	Hankow [burg	do	East Asiatic Co
... 26	Indien	2813	Gobe	Dan	Denmark & Gothen-	do	Geddes & Co
... 26	Tehhsing	900	Daily	Br	Hankow	do	N Yusen Kaisha
... 26	Aki Maru	3995	Homma	Jap	Japan	do	Ch Eng & Min Co
... 26	Haiping	1267	Budgen	Br	Chinwangtao	Coal and General	

DEPARTURES (FROM THE ANCHORAGE AND WOOSUNG.)

Date	Name.	Tons	Captain.	Flag.	Destination.	Cargo.	Dispatched by.
Jan 19	Carnarvonshire	2710	Gregory	Br	Nagasaki	Original	J M & Co Ld
... 19	Kokuyo Maru	1150	Kokubu	Jap	Moji	do	Moller Brothers
... 19	Kaiping	1287	Macfarlane	Br	T'sin, C'wtao	General	Chi Eng & Mg Co
... 20	Kinling	2511	Newcomb	Br	H'kow & Ports	do	B & Swire
... 20	Heinchi	1385	Stephen	Chi	H'kow & Ports	do	C M S N Co

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DEPARTURES.—Continued.

Date.	Name.	Tons	Captain.	Flag.	Destination.	Cargo.	Dispatched by.
Jan 20	Gov. Jaeschke	1057	Pilgrim	Ger	Kiaochow	General	H-America Line
... 20	Kwangtah	1536	Lunt	Chi	H'kong, Canton	do	O M S N Co
... 20	Kiukiang	1228	Robertson	Br	Wakamatsu	do	B & Swire
... 20	Tschi Maru	1278	Narita	Jap	H'kow & Ports	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 20	Ulv	885	Pederren	Nor	Foochow	do	Thoresen & Co
... 20	Wosang	1127	Bowker	Br	Chefoo, Dairen	do	J M & Co Ltd
... 20	Kwellin	1200	Puckett	Br	H'kong, Canton	do	B & Swire
... 20	Chenan	1350	Jones	Br	Japan	do	B & Swire
... 20	Glencarn	2885	Houghton	Br	Europe, H'kong	do	S McGregor & Co
... 20	Perseus	4299	Warrall	Br	Ningpo	do	B & Swire
... 20	Kiangteen	1423	Gillespie	Chi	Ningpo	do	O M S N Co
... 20	Lita	1728	Henry	Fr	Ningpo	do	R Ackermann & Co
... 20	Yungshin	999	Hopkins	Chi	Ningpo	do	Ningshao S N Co
... 21	Koonshing	1333	Wright	Br	Hankow	do	J M & Co Ltd
... 21	Kiangkwan	1450	Frigast	Chi	H'kow & Ports	do	O M S N Co
... 21	Yohyang Maru	2225	Takano	Jap	H'kow & Ports	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 21	Kaisow	2529	Jones	Br	Japan	do	B & Swire
... 21	Hsiekong	1262	Hamblin	Chi	Amoy, Swatow	do	O M S N Co
... 21	Hsingshun	809	Markusjen	Chi	Wakamatsu	do	Wallem & Co
... 21	Tatoutze	691	Augestad	Fr	Hankow	do	R Ackermann & Co
... 21	Pekin	1274	Stott	Br	Ningpo	do	B & Swire
... 21	Ningshao	1318	Bell	Chi	Ningpo	do	Ningshao S N Co
... 21	Tourane	3104	Lancelin	Fr	Japan	do	M Maritimes
... 22	Loongwo	2386	Christie	Br	H'kow & Ports	do	J M & Co Ltd
... 22	Changon	1289	Harvey	Br	H'kow & Ports	do	Geddes & Co
... 22	Tenyo Maru	7265	Bent	Jap	Hongkong	Original	Toyo Kisen Kaisha
... 22	Kosai Maru	1423	Tominaga	Jap	Japan	General	N Yusen Kaisha
... 22	Hysen	4231	Davies	Br	Japan	do	B & Swire
... 22	Selum	865	Solum	Nor	Wakamatsu	do	Moller Brothers
... 22	Fujisan Maru	1255	Kozumi	Jap	Japan	do	M B Kaisha
... 22	Socotra	3896	Andrews	Br	Europe, H'kong	do	P & O S N Co
... 22	Niivata Maru	818	Kishi	Jap	Japan	do	N Yusen Kaisha
... 22	Hoihow	898	Jones	Br	Amoy, Swatow	do	B & Swire
... 22	Fooshing	4231	Liesman	Br	Wuhu	do	J M & Co Ltd
... 22	Yungshin	999	Hopkins	Chi	Ningpo	do	Ningshao S N Co
... 22	Lita	1727	Henry	Fr	Ningpo	do	R Ackermann & Co
... 22	Kiangteen	1453	Gillespie	Chi	Ningpo	do	O M S N Co
... 22	Monteagle	3953	Robinson	Br	Hongkong	Original	O P Ry Co
... 22	Poltava	1886	Bakandoff	Russ	Vladivostok	General	Chi E Railway Co
... 23	Tafuo Maru	1758	Nomura	Jap	Hankow & Ports	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 23	Syria	4191	Gregor	Br	Europe v H'ng	do	P & O S N Co
... 23	Tatung	1882	Walker	Br	Hankow & Ports	do	B & Swire
... 23	Persia	3779	Giurgevich	Aus	Europe v H'ng	do	S Wieler & Co
... 23	Derfflinger	5241	Miners	Ger	Europe v H'ng	Mails, etc	Melchers & Co
... 23	Suimow	1089	Anders	Ger	Hankow	do	H-America Line
... 23	Nyanza	4185	Bradshaw	Br	Japan v N'king	General	P & O S N Co
... 23	Kanchow	1274	Monkman	Br	H'kong & C'ton	do	B & Swire
... 23	Fuki Maru	1544	Murakami	Jap	Kobe	do	Moller Brothers
... 23	Yochow	1257	Wavell	Br	Wei, C'h, D'ren	do	B & Swire
... 23	Choshun Maru	1503	Suruga	Jap	F'w, A'y, S.H'ng	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 23	Fungshun	831	Malcolm	Chi	N'po, W'chow	do	O M S N Co
... 23	Meifoo	1821	McArthur	Chi	H'kong, Canton	do	O M S N Co
... 23	Kobe Maru	1823	Higo	Jap	Dairen	do	N Yusen Kaisha
... 23	Tingsang	1045	Anderson	Br	Ch, T'in, C, D'n	do	J M & Co Ltd
... 23	Chinkiang	1229	Kay	Br	Wuhu	do	B & Swire
... 23	Castor	863	Muir	Br	L'kat v S'pore	do	Geo McBain
... 23	Helios	860	Kundsen	Nor	Wakamatsu	do	Furukawa Mg Co
... 23	Pingching	1000	Wyles	Chi	Cruise	do	Customs
... 23	Ad. Tirpitz	1037	Artelt	Ger	K'u C'foo Dairen	do	H-America Line
... 24	Kiangfoo	1468	Carlson	Chi	Hankow & Ports	do	O M S N Co
... 24	S 90		Dolandt	Ger			
... 24	Hangsang	1350	Wilde	Br	Wuhu	do	J M & Co Ltd
... 24	Pekin	1274	Stott	Br	Ningpo	do	B & Swire
... 24	Ningshao	2204	Bell	Chi	Ningpo	do	Ningshao S N Co
... 24	M Leonhardt	1177	Wilee	Ger	Vladivostok	do	Moller Brothers
... 25	Kiangshin	2101	Lindstrom	Chi	H'kow & Ports	do	O M S N Co
... 25	Nanyang Maru	2225	Kinochita	Jap	H'kow & Ports	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 25	Limso	1727	Seite	Fr	H'kow & Ports	do	R Ackermann & Co
... 25	Meilee	1151	Engelhardt	Ger	Hankow & Ports	do	Melchers & Co
... 25	Heimdal	762	Johnsen	Nor	Japan	do	Thoresen & Co
... 25	Hakui Maru	1434	Irisawa	Jap	Moji	Original	N Yusen Kaisha
... 25	Welsh Prince	3218	Sheppard	Br	H'kong, Canton	General	A Karberg & Co
... 25	Shuntien	1081	Meathrel	Br	Foochow	do	B & Swire
... 25	Hsinfung	1385	Mackinnon	Chi	Europe v H'ng	do	O M S N Co
... 25	Pembrokeshire	2787	Liddle	Br	Cruise	do	J M & Co Ltd
... 25	Liu Hsing	750	Powell	Chi	Swatow	do	Customs
... 25	Yunnan	1208	Jones	Br	Kiaochow	do	B & Swire
... 25	Singlee	934	Yamagata	Chi	Europe	do	Ch Com S N Co
... 25	Kiangteen	1430	Gillespie	Chi	Ningpo	do	O M S N Co
... 25	Lita	1728	Henry	Fr	Ningpo	do	R Ackermann & Co
... 25	Yungshin	999	Hopkins	Chi	Ningpo	do	Ningshao S N Co
... 25	Poochi	631	Chandler	Chi	Chefoo	do	O M S N Co
... 26	Tuckwo	2358	Sandbach	Br	H'kow & Ports	do	J M & Co Ltd
... 26	Poyang	1892	Carnaghan	Br	H'kow & Ports	do	B & Swire
... 26	Taishun	1216	Paramore	Chi	H'kong, Canton	do	O M S N Co
... 26	Sikiang	1015	Helfer	Ger	Hankow	do	H-America Line
... 26	Taksang	977	McClure	Br	Kiaochow	do	J M & Co Ltd
... 26	Gov Jaeschke	1055	Pilgrim	Ger	Kiaochow	do	H-America Line
... 26	Kintuck	2996	Paddle	Br	Japan	do	B & Swire
... 26	Feiching	980	Howie	Chi	Amoy, Swatow	do	O M S N Co
... 26	Manju Maru	1030	Yamamoto	Jap	Japan	do	M B Kaisha
... 26	Wenchow	560	Ainslie	Br	Ch, C'tao, T'sin	do	B & Swire
... 26	Pekin	1274	Stott	Br	Ningpo	do	B & Swire
... 26	Ningshao	1318	Bell	Chi	Ningpo	do	Ningshao S N Co

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